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EASTERN

F.O. 371

1947



PALESTINE

FILE No. 46

pp. 5930 - 6338

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EASTERN

Parliamentary Question

* 44. Mr. Wilkes,—To ask the Secretary of State for War, if he will state the number of Jews, either Palestinian citizens or residents, who volunteered for work and service in enemy occupied territory between 1939 and 1945; the number who were dropped by parachute or other means in enemy-occupied territory; the percentage killed or shot by the enemy; what other people in Palestine or the Middle East volunteered and served similarly as British agents; the number of such volunteers; and the number of casualties suffered. [Tuesday 1st July.]

F.O. ARE NOT ASKED TO ADVISE.

5930

61782

(135)

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Enemy-Occupied Territory (British Agents)

77. Mr. Wilkes asked the Secretary of State for War the number of Jews, either Palestinian citizens or residents, who volunteered for work and service in enemy-occupied territory between 1939 and 1945; the number who were dropped by parachute or other means in enemy-occupied territory; the percentage killed or shot by the enemy; what other people in Palestine or the Middle East volunteered and served similarly as British agents; the number of such volunteers; and the number of casualties suffered.

Mr. J. Freeman: I regret that the information for which my hon. Friend asks is not available.

Reference: FO 371 /61782

THE PUBLIC

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Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

E 5948

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 5th July, 1947. R. 5th " 21.55 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No.1284 Top Secret and Personal.

The Chairman of U.N.S.C.O.P. came up and had tea with me yesterday at my request, as I have been anxious for some time to clarify the position relating to evidence from this Government. In his view, date (?5th July) has no significance in regard to Government evidence. The Committee will, if they require it, call on the Government to produce evidence either written or oral from time to time as the hearings progress. On the other hand, if the Government desire at any time during the hearings to produce evidence, the Committee will be prepared to receive it in writing or orally making it heard. The Chairman is not unduly concerned regarding the Government's request to be heard in camera though I have indicated that, rather than risk them not getting the evidence they want, I would be prepared to relax this condition, at least in some cases. I believe that few Members of the Committee are being difficult in this connection. The Chairman is recommending to the Committee that my own statement should be heard in private as I will be including security matters.

2. I asked him what evidence he was likely to require from H.M.G. at Geneva and told him that it would be necessary for us to have early information on this: he was vague on the point and said that it would be difficult for them to make up their mind until they had heard

evidence/

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: FO 371 61782

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7 JUL 1847

BENT TO DEPT.

evidence here. He said he had it in mind that they might get information from H.M.G. by what he called "underground" channels. He particularly mentioned that they would like to know in this manner whether there was likelihood of H.M.G. accepting any proposals they had in mind and also H.M.G. s views on the practicability of any scheme they produced. I made no comment on this. I asked him whether he had as yet any idea when the Committee were likely to report and he had no reason to believe that they could not do so by September as requested.

I found that he was fully alive to this urgency of political solution being found, and also the necessity of it being worked out in sufficient detail to prevent arguments after it had been accepted.

Distributed to:-

MS. 25
Secretary of State
Sir T. Lloyd
Mr. I. Thomas
Mr. Martin
Sir C. Jeffries
Mr. Blackburne
Mr. Trafford Smith
Mr. Mathieson
Mr. Higham
Mr. Bennett
Mr. Esstwood
Mr. Bigg
Miss Boyd
Duty Officer
Foreign Office

- Mr. C.W. Durter.

· Mr. H. Beelay.

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1 2 3 * 5 6 Reference: F 3 1 61782

INWARD TELEGRAM

~948/40/

Put with

AMENDED COPY (Confirmation received)
Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 5th July, 1947. R. 5th " 21.55 hrs.

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* Correction received 9.7.47.

Distributed to: -

MS. 25
Secretary of State
Sir T. Lloyd
Mr. I. Thomas
Mr. Martin
Sir C. Jeffries
Mr. Blackburns
Mr. Trafford Smith
Mr. Mathieson
Mr. Higham
Mr. Bennett
Mr. Bigg
Miss Boyd
Duty Officer
Foreign Office

· Mr. C.W. Bazter. Mr. H. Beeley.

Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Restricted.

letter 15 Mr. Stokes

from the Morris lin Stale

H13. 4/

See Hausand 11 June 18"

Thank you for your letter of the 1st July, about the Bulgour Dulanation. When 9 pointed out to Janner that "certain other intends which must be safiguarded wen mentioned in Balfour's letter, 9 was referring to the concluding Throws of the Dulanction itself. It is there made clear that, in the intentien of His Majisty's Government the establishment 7 a Juvish National Home was not to prejudice: (a) "the civil and religious rights of visting non-gewish communities en Palestine; (b) "the rights and political status enjoyed by Jus in any other country. having with all sorow I can't Su that this draft aumono the letter to which it is he and to whele, The 19/5 Said Mor unphed, sheahing how notes to

supplementaries, there the Encycl. Butannica

Contamid the full light of A.J. B's letter. Stohen say, it doesn't. 9. Burgers.

Gasling Hy Beth of Mark of States of

In your reply to me of the loth June you said that you had read the whole of the balfour correspondence in the Encyclopedia Britannica. Then at the end you went on to say that in reply to a question from Janner "the letter went on to discuss certain other interests which must be safeguarded".

How I have looked up the Encyclopedia Britannica and there is nothing in it except be very short letter so constantly referred to but the End hovember 1917 and I shall therefore be very much obliged if you will tell me where I could see. "the letter" which "went on to discuss certain other interests which must be safeguarded".

Han,
Yours sincerely,
N.A. STOKES.

Reference: FO 371 /61782

Division

hill you please type for m/s signature and submit with the attached pp.?

M/s Toept.
7/7/47.

My dear Dick, Thank you for your letter of Plaft Cor. July 12st. The cause I think there is a misunders landing In your suntin in the Commons Letter to You asked whent " the complete Elter from W Balforn to Mr Roller child M Stones (it shed. have been Low Roth, child) from the "subody ny the Balforn declaration,"
would be hubushed the letter was in Minister 1 State the Encyclopaedia Butannica. This was correct. You will find it printed in Fell on p. 956 of vol 23 of the 14th Edition. ask Man In your letter you stock about Mr Beden the whole of the Balfour consoperatura. Had you ashed me This in the House I shed have replied that there was Is This scenati? 🕏 no faither correspondence. You letter for on to ungine Grandes : about my whey to Januar to the hypoth HB. effect. that the Balfour letter Vicund "cutain often interests which mu le safe guarded Whin I said this I was referring to the concluding bluesed to the Declaration itself, which is, as you Know contained in the letter. The Declaration makes it char that in the intention of this Maysty's Sovemment the establishing Ja Jewish Walimal Home was not to prejudice the civit and religious njute Besisting non-Fewish

Communities in Pale hime

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IING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

O'the rights of political states enjoyed by Jews in any other country!

There are the rafe praids to which I which I referred and they can as I said be formed under the reference price be formed under the reference price above in the Encyclopaedia.

SS

Joes Kis clear me?

Yours sincerely

(Sed.) Hectan Mc. Ail.

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OUT FILE

(E 5955/46/31)

11th July, 1947.

By dear Dien,

Thank you for your letter of July 1st.

I think there is a misunderstanding. In your question in the Commons you saked whether "the complete letter from ar. Balfour to Mr. Rothschild" (it should have been Lord Rothschild) "embodying the Balfour declaration, would be published".

I replied that the letter was in the Encyclopsedia Britannica. This was correct. You will find it printed in full on page 955 of volume 23 of the 14th edition.

in your letter you ask about "the whole of the Balfour correspondence". Nad you asked me this in the House I should have replied that there was no further correspondence.

Your letter goes on to enquire shout my reply to Janner to the effect that the Balfour letter discussed "certain other interests which must be safe-guarded".

when I said this I was referring to the concluding phrases of the Declaration itself, which is contained in the letter.

The Declaration makes it clear that in the intention of His Majesty's Government the establishment of a Jewish Mational Home was not to prejudice

/(a)

R.R.Stokes, Esq., M.P. House of Commons.

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- (a) "the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Pelestine."
- (b) "the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

Those are the safe-guards to which I referred and they can, as I said, be found under the reference given above in the Encyclopsedia.

Does this clear me?

Yours sincerely

(Sqd.) Hecton Mc. Neil.

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Reference: FO 371

INWARD TELEGRAM

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 29th June, 1947.
R. 29th " 16.25 hr 7

IMMEDIATE

No.1247 Top Secret.

Following for Martin from MacGillivray. . Begins.

I understand that the Committee will probably release to the Press this evening resolution expressing concern at the killing of British soldiers in last night's attacks in Tel Aviv and Haifa. Text of the resolution will be under discussion when the full Committee mest tonight, on return to Jerusalem of those delegates who are today lunching with Dr. Weizmann at Rehovot.

Distributed to:-

MS.25

Secretary of State

Sir T. Lloyd

Mr. I. Thomas

Mr. Martin

Mr. Gutch

Mr. Trafford Smith

Foreign Office

Mr. Mathieson

Mr. Higham

Mr. Bennett

Mr. Eastwood

Mr. Bigg

Miss Boyd

Mr. C.W. Baxter.

Mr. H. Beelay.

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BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

3rd July 1947

Ref: 15/213/47

Dear Department,

You may like to hear how the United States press is reporting the activities of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine.

Most papers carry accounts of each day's work of the Committee but, with the exception of the notoriously Zionist "P.M.", the reports have not so far been featured on front pages or under flamboyant headlines. The Committee's resolution on the three terrorists under sentence of death for attacking Acre prison, together with Sir Henry Gurney's reply, have been fully reported. The Arabs' boycott of the Committee has also been well covered.

"P.M." carries daily despatches from Victor Bernstein in Palestine which are biased in the extreme. As an example you may care to see the enclosed report appearing on June 27th. Bernstein asserts that the Palestine police cleared all the Arabs away from Revivim on the occasion of UNSCOP's visit so that the Committee should not see how well the Jews and Arabs can get along together.

We are sending a copy of this letter and enclosure to Jerusalem.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

No Arabs in Jewish Town British Drove Them Out

By VICTOR H. BERNSTEIN Staff Correspondent (Copyright, 1947, by The Newspaper PM, Inc.) **REVIVIM**

N.Y.

It may be that the visit of the United Nation Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) yes-

terday into the Negev-the blazing desert of South Palestine that covers more than a third of this tiny country-will be the most important of their whole trip.

For this is the new frontier of the Jewish Palestine where the pioneers are planting seeds to make the new desert bloom. And the present mood of the Iews here is that they will not accept any parti-tion without the inclusion of the Negev into the Jewish state.

Substitute Base To Protect Suez

But strategically, the bleak brown hills of this southern land where a tree is of the first magnitude is of tremendous importance to the British Empire. For the British withdrawal from Egypt leaves the Negev, lying just across Egypt's northern border, as a natural alter- An Expanse of Brass nate military base for the defense of the Suez Canal.

These were the large issues which hovered over the day's journey over splendid military-built highways into Beersheba and beyond. What hidden lobbying is going on or will eventuate to bring the British military stakes here to the attention of the authors' final enroute here our convoy passed a settlement of the Palestine problem one can only guess.

Water Stored by Herculean Efforts

The Jews have no need of secret lobbying. What they want is plain | The Desert to see in this little settlement of Revivim, a semi-experimental settlement of 35 men and women who have been wrestling with the moves and becomes alive. Figs, desert now for four years.

Above all, the Jews here wanted gray - green young wheat shows

Correction

An extra, undetected zero crept into Victor H. Bernstein's story in yesterday's PM. As a result it was erroneously reported that Poland had "just concluded a \$280,000,000 deal with Palestine." The figure should have been \$28,000.000.

water and by herculean efforts they have gotten it. By a series of channels, floodgates and dams they store enough run-off during the rainy season—water that for a thousand years has been running wasted to the sea from the nearby hills under cultivation.

To suddenly come upon the Revivim reservoir, tar floored and walled and about the size of a football field, to come upon this pool of cool green water set like a wonderful jewel in the vast expanse of the desert brass is an unforgettable experience.

A Jewel in

And these pioneers have also sunk a well into the desert and come upon water too salty for drinking but suitable, when mixed with sweet water, for the growth of certain kinds of trees and plants.

And the Jews have made themselves a third source of water. For Jewish pipeline project which is bringing water 250 miles from the northern edge of the Negev to Revivim and 15 other Jewish setdesert.

Becomes Alive

With this water, the desert dates, pomegranates, plums grow;

above the soil; giant onions, cucumbers and tomatoes sweeter than almost any I have tasted in the States, are harvested.

We ate home-grown vegetables for lunch along with tinned meats and potato salad in the small, allpurpose stone building which is the main edifice of the little colony. We talked with the sturdy youngsters in their early twenties, who make up the bulk of the workers here - farm manager Joseph Hepner is only 31.

They All Ask About Izzv Stone

Almost everyone to whom I -to provide irrigation for 35 acres talked (and this is not the first place this has happened) asked how PM's Izzy Stone was and related fond memories of Stone riding a camel and Stone arguing politics and economics in the midst of what—in places, at least—looks like Sahara.

Not all of the delegates came on yesterday's trip, but Chairman Sandstroem was with us and also the Czech, Australian, Indian and Yugoslav delegates and one or two others. Sandstroem is not a young man any more and it must have been a trying day for him. But like all his colleagues with him he must have looked on this journey as one of the keys to the solution of the Palestine problem.

This much can be said: Revivim is the new living proof that the Negev can be conquered. And in the face of this proof, no one who has seen, as UNSCOP saw yesterday, the vast, arid and empty tlements dotting the southern places of the Negev, where no seed yet grows because no one has urnished water, can ever there's no room in Palestine for any more people."

Police Chase Bedouins Away

But Revivim also taught UNSCOP something else. I've said that the arid land surrounding the colony is empty. That's not quite true. There live the Bedouins grazing their goats and sheep on flora so sparse it can hardly be seen with the naked eye. These Bedouin neighbors come often to Revivim to fetch water or to pass the friendly time of day in a special "reception tent" set out for them where, conforming to local customs, they are given coffee brewed in Arab style. They sit together with their Jewish hosts in the utmost cordiality.

And now we learn that yesterday, at 5 o'clock, three trucks of Palestine police came around and chased the Arabs away from Revivim and kept them away for the day.

Jews who told us the story would not attempt to give us a formal explanation. But no one who heard it could possibly have misunderstood. Anything which might indicate that Jews and Arabs can under any circumstances live together as good neighbors is anathema to the British. It removes their last moral excuse for staying here.

CO

Wt. 24772/717 17855 10/38 F.O.P.

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

E 6039 July 1947

Ref: 200/284/47

Dear Department,

Our telegram No. 3747 of July 2nd about the letter from Representative Emanuel Celler asking the Ambassador to intercede over the question of the three terrorists under sentence of death for blowing up Acre Prison.

- A copy of Mr. Celler's letter is enclosed. As you will see, the letter is not distinguished for its accuracy or impartiality.
- Mr. Celler asserts that the resolution of UNSCOP requests the Palestine authorities and H.M.G. "not to execute these death sentences". This is not, of course, a fair summary of the Committee's resolution. While we do not think it worth while answering Mr. Celler's letter point by point, it would, we think, be advisable to let him have a reply when we know whether in fact the sentences are confirmed by the G.O.C. in Palestine and supported by the High Commissioner. If there are any points you would specially like us to make please let us know.
- We are sending a copy of this letter to Jerusalem.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

617 LON DON 800

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 26, 1947.

The Right Honorable
The Lord Inverchapel
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Office of the Embassy of Great Britain
3100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

I respectfully draw your attention to the need for you to intercede with your Government to prevent the execution of Meir Nakar, Abshalom Habib, Jacob Weiss.

The sentences of death are awaiting confirmation by the British High Commissioner. The pronouncement of these death sentences occurred the day the United Nations Committee on Palestine arrived in the Holy Land. Although it might be deemed a strange coincidence that such pronouncement took place when it did, it cannot be deemed fortuitous should confirmation of the death sentences ensue. That would impose too much of a burden upon our credulity.

Any interference cannot now be said to be sub judice.

The United Nations Palestine Committee has passed a resolution earnestly requesting the Palestine authorities and your Government not to execute these death sentences. The Palestine Committee has taken this action in the interest of peace, law and order. Your Government cannot disregard or flout the admonition of the Palestine Committee. To do so would bring the United Nations itself into disrepute. Great Britain may soon find that it cannot with impunity ignore the recommendations or orders of any United Nations Committee. Such negative conduct may boomerang. Soon another Committee of the United Nations will consider the controversy between your country and Egypt concerning the Sudan. Soon also your country will be called before another United Nations Committee concerning the Italian-North Africa colonies.

617

CO

Great Britain may then find herself in the uncomfortable position of having established a precedent in distregarding recommendations of United Nations Committees.

We recall that Sir Alexander Cadogan specifically went out of his way to congratulate the delegate from Norway who urged the resolution that peace and order be maintained in Palestine during the Committee's investigations. Your Government was very quick to interpret this statement by the Norway delegate in unilateral manner as only applying to Jewish activities in the Holy Land and to so-called "illegal immigration" (immigration which is legal, of course, in accordance with the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate which is the only legal instrument that permits your Government's presence in Palestine).

We draffed the Nowage work with a god and of the filter judges of the meaning than Mr. Celler! 1855.

The words, however, of the Norway delegate were meant to cover British activities in Palestine as well as Jewish and Arab activities. Execution of these three youths at this time would not only be a challenge of international authority, but it would clearly indicate that your Government does not want peace in Palestine. It would prevent a just settlement of the question which is wanted and needed by the people of Palestine. The execution of these three lads would be a most provocative act. It would make more difficult the task of the Jewish organizations which are trying with might and main to proscribe and in their own way stop the terrorists' activities of the Irgun and Stern groups.

We deplore terrorism from any source, be it from the British or the Jews in Palestine. Execution of these boys would only encourage terrorism. Certainly the British should have learned from its experiences in Ireland and India that executions prove nothing and conclude nothing.

It must be noted too that these boys were tried by military courts which in their conduct are in effect

/political

political courts.

It is hoped you will convey this message to your Government.

I await your reply.

Respectfully yours,

EMANUEL CELLER

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E6039/46/31

Letter to bleavery, Weshington.

15 July

Tear Departer Chancery, He should be gettpet if you would make sun that all your letters to us on orbjils connected with Palestin are sent in duplicate. He upy all these letters to the bolomiel Office, and on several occasions recently they have here had to be re-typed [commutations with a lengthy emolosum) the office hope this could be done. Apart from the extra work involved, there is a risk that action may be delayed by this necessity. Yours every Eastern Dyl. HB. 1075 COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: FO 371 61782

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
15th July, 1947.

(E 6039/46/31)

Dear Chancery,

We should be grateful if you would make sure that all your letters to us on subjects connected with Palestine are sent in duplicate. We copy all these letters to the Colonial Office, and on several occasions recently they have had to be re-typed here (sometimes with a lengthy enclosure) before this could be done. Apart from the extra work involved, there is a risk that action may be delayed by this necessity.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery, British Embassy, Washington. * 5 6 Reference: FO 371 /61782

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

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EN

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

22nd July 1947

Ref: 158/ /47

Dear Department,

With reference to your letter E.6039/46/31 of 15th July, we will make sure that in future all our letters will be sent in duplicate.

Yours ever,

Eastern Department, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: FO 371 61782

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

10, DOWNING STREET, S.W.1

PRIVATE SECRETARY

FO



The attached communication addressed to the Prime Minister is transmitted to you to be dealt with in whatever manner is considered appropriate by the Department concerned. It refers to previous correspondence which was forwarded to

- 1. No acknowledgment has been sent from here.
- 2. A plain acknowledgment has been sent from here, adding that the communication has been forwarded to your Department.
- 3. A copy of the acknowledgment which has been sent from here is attached.

E 6042

Date 6.7.47.

10

Reference:

UNITED NATIONS AUTHORIZES PALESTINE INVESTIGATION

The Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations was composed of a skeleton delegation from 55 countries. To date the meeting was the shortest Assembly ever held, and by May 15th, 1947 in less than three weeks, it had completed its work and set up a Special Investigating Committee.

At the first plenary session the President of the Assembly, the Hon. H. E. M. Oswaldo Aranha, of Brazil stated, that as to the Palestine problem, it has come to be "the hour of decision for our conscience."

Special Results

The session will be remembered for three things besides the appointment of the Investigating Committee.

- 1. The opportunity afforded the mandated peoples to be heard. Under the League of Nations there was no provision for the mandated peoples to be heard, directly.
- 2. The minority report: the Arab States attempt to set up a legislative standard for the Committee in anticipation of the consideration of the future government of Palestine.
- 3. Rejection of the United Kingdom as a member of the Investigating Committee because of its direct concern with Palestine.

The mandatory power remains uppermost in the future government of Palestine since the mandatory reserves the right to pass upon the adequacy of the Investigating Committee report.

Special Committee Authority

The terms of reference for the Special Committee were left wide open. The subcommittee report was watered down from preparation for the consideration of the "future government of

OFFICE, LON DON OO

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Palestine", to a report on the "question of Palestine", with the result that the United Kingdom then withdrew from the terms of reference the phrase "in pursuance of the request of the Government of the United Kingdom". No pronouncement was made by the mandatory, or in the terms of reference by the Assembly as to immediate independence, permission for the retention of the mandate, or the termination of the mandate and notice of the same.

Final Text of Terms of Reference The terms of reference for the Special Committee as adopted are as follows:

"Whereas the General Assembly of the United Nations has been called into special session for the purpose of constituting and instructing a Special Committee to prepare for the consideration at the next regular session of the Assembly a report on the question of Palestine."

The General Assembly RESOLVES that:

- 1. a Special Committee be created for the above-mentioned purpose consisting of the representatives of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Iran, The Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Uruguay, Guatemala, Yugoslavia, Australia and India.
- 2. the Special Committee shall have the widest powers to ascertain and record facts, and to investigate all questions and issues relevant to the problem of Palestine;
- 4. the Special Committee shall conduct investigations in Palestine, and wherever it may deem useful,...
- 5. the Special Committee shall give most careful consideration to the religious interests in Palestine of Islam, Judaism and Christianity;
- 6. the Special Committee shall prepare a report to the General Assembly and shall submit proposals as it may consider appropriate for the solution of the problem of Palestine:
- 7. the Special Committee's report shall be communicated to the Secretary General not later than 1 September 1947...

Assembly Communications: Adoption of Agenda After the opening meeting of the Assembly in plenary session the General Committee took up the agenda. The United Kingdom communication on the appointment of a Special Committee to prepare for the consideration at the next regular session of the Assembly,

of the future government of Palestine was adopted. Subsequent communications were considered. The Arab States' proposal included a request for the termination of the mandate in Palestine and a declaration of independence.

Independence Proposal Left Off Agenda. At 7:22 P.M. after two days of procedural discussion by the General Committee, and one day by the Assembly at Flushing Meadows, the Assembly voted not to place the Arab independence proposal on the agenda. The vote was 15 in favor, and 24 against, and 10 abstentions. A two thirds vote in the Assembly of those present and voting is required to place a subsequent proposal on the agenda since the General Committee by a vote of 8 against recommendation to 1 in favor and 5 abstentions had decided not to make a favorable recommendation of the proposal to the Assembly.

Terms of Reference Broadened The United Kingdom had said that the Arab Proposal deals with the same point as the United Kingdom communication but is "diametrically opposite in procedure". After the Assembly came out against placing the Arab Proposal on the agenda, the termination of the Palestine mandate and independence were not the ultimate object of the Special Committee inquiry but one of many solutions.

Mandated
Peoples
Heard by
First

When the United States delegate stated that a hearing of authorized persons by the First Committee, or by a subcommittee was a matter of First Committee discretion, the United Kingdom delegate disagreed and said that as the question was procedural, the First Committee had no authority to allow matters of substance to be presented. The following Monday, three days later, the situation was reversed. The Jewish Agency was invited to appear and speak. The Arab Higher Committee had not been invited. The Arab States abstained from taking part in Committee procedure.

The First Committee then voted to hear the Arab Higher Committee representative. The First Committee adjourned and reconvened as an Assembly plenary session and extended an invitation to the Arab delegation to speak.

Terms of Reference Drafted

Interested Third Persons After the hearing a subcommittee drafted a proposal for the terms of reference of the Special Committee.

Certain member states as a result of their own experience were particularly interested in independence, i.e. the Philippines, India and Siam. Upon admission to membership during the Special Session Siam pointed out that "Siam got rid of extra territoriality through friendly associations". The Philippine delegate had worked to include independence in the Trusteeship Charter provisions in San Francisco, but was unsuccessful. He also stressed again at Lake Success the importance of a time limit, after which independence would be granted.

However, in spite of the United Kingdom's final statement that the delegates had "necessarily strayed", although the question was procedural, both independence proposals were deleted from the subcommittee report i.e. 5 A. (on independence) and 7 (independence without delay). Therefore, independence, which under the League of Nations mandate system was anticipated as a solution, was not included as a term of reference, whereas, a proposal to include religious freedom, in so far as Islam, Judaism, and Christianity were concerned, was passed by a vote of 27 to 9, with 16 abstentions, and 3 not present. The delegate of Chile pointed out the separation of church and state in his country, and added that they were a country of "men who have made of free thought a political banner."

Religious
Freedom
Provision
Retained
Although
Subcommittee
Majority
Voted to
Cmit the
Item

LON DON

The Russian delegate said that "as far as certain delegations are concerned the mention of the word independence seems to be superfluous and it would be all the more superfluous in that case to stress religious interests...this document does not mention in detail other very important points such as economic interests and political interests. It does not mention the situation of women, and so forth.

If we single out religious interests it would be quite incomprehensible."

The United States delegate, Mr. Austin's comment was that "the United States believes that the spiritual interest expressed... is a positive element of concern in the conscience of mankind".

Membership of Special Committee Section 1 As to the composition of the Special Committee the names of the great powers (security Council permanent members) were not included by a majority vote of 13; 10 votes against the Australian proposal to reject the great powers, and 29 abstained from voting, while 2 countries were absent. The United States voted for the proposition and the United Kingdom voted against it. Prior to the vote it had been announced by Denmark that they would abstain for the time being in order to gain unanimity. In San Francisco the abstentions on the veto were protest votes.

Member Qualifications of the Special Committee The Venezuelian delegate proposed that when the Special Committee was set up the States shall elect persons "...of recognized competence in international law and international affairs". It was suggested by another delegate that the qualifications of committee members be broadened to include those versed in "public affairs" but Mr. Austin said the appointees "could not be elected" and the individual states should decide on their qualifications.

Terms of
Reference
Broadened
To Include
Displaced
Persons
Camps

Final Report to the Assembly

Policy Statements The subcommittee report was broadened further. Section 4 provided for special investigations in Palestine. The phrase "and wherever it may deem useful" was added. The investigation will now include displaced persons in Europe.

The rapporteur for the committee said that in his opinion the Palestine "problem is not a legal one but above all a problem of human relations". He dismissed the minority report on independence as a "slight digression".

No final statement of policy was made by the United States delegate. In debate Mr. Austin on May 12, 1947 at Lake Success proposed guarantees of consideration of the rights necessary to the peace and independence of its peoples in the discussion of point 5 of the sub-committee report which was changed to the following, "The Special Committee in studying the future government of Palestine, shall give full consideration to guarantees of the rights necessary to the peace and independence of the peoples." He did not accept Mr. Gromyko's amendment which would have made the text read as follows "The Special Committee, in studying the future government of Palestine, shall give full consideration to guarantees of the rights of its peoples necessary to the peace and independence of that country." Mr. Austin then proposed that the independence provision be deleted.

The delegate from Iraq explained the refusal to discuss independence as due to an unwillingness to be firm for fear of the urgency of the issue, and, as if an examination of rights indicates partiality.

The Indian delegate said that under the circumstances since independence was implied, the Special Committee would be obligated

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, 617 ∞

to include it in the report.

The terms of reference for the Special Committee were adopted by a vote of 45 to 7, 1 abstained and 2 were absent. The Norwegian proposal for a truce during the investigation was agreed to. The delegate from Peru then congratulated President Aranha on his conduct of the meeting and expressed his "sympathy and admiration".

For the past weeks it was evident that other elements beside the ultimate effect of a mandate, namely independence, were in the minds of the delegations. What the effect on the economic development of Palestine will be, is yet to be seen. According to the Jewish Agency the maintenance of the mandate insures the continuance of the Jewish progressive experiment.

The arbitrary power of the mandate power although limited by the Assembly, since the mandatory people were granted a hearing, is nevertheless retained in the discretionary power to grant or withhold independence. Other territories in the Middle East, formerly under League of Nations mandates, have become states with representatives at the United Nations. The unwillingness of the United Kingdom, and the United States, to include independence in the terms of reference, is significant for the Jews, as well as the Arabs, in view of trusteeship agreements under the United Nations which speak of looking toward the progressive development of peoples, but do not specifically mention independence. The recognition of the human right to cry out and be heard, however, may be more effective.

FTJennison Flushing Meadows New York April 28th-May 16th, 1947.

INWARD TELEGRAL

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunn'ngham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 4th July, 1947.

TREAT AS IMMEDIATE

PALNEWS No.11.

From Stubbs to Sabine.

6085

Agency case opened U.N.S.C.O.P. today by Ben Gurion. In two and a half hours speech Gurion admitted outset case was "rather complicated one" it involved relations between first Jews and gentiles second Jewish national home and Mandatory Power third Jews and Arabs. After historical review problem since Balfour declaration he attacked firstly various provisions of white Paper particularly relating to immigration laying deaths of hundreds thousands Jews at Britain's door mentioning Struma incident. He then attacked Government memorandum submitted U.N.S.C.O.P. as trying achieve impossible - trying justify White Paper to show that policy inherent in Balfour declaration and Mandate from beginning. For first time administration had openly confessed hostility to Mandate. Gurion promised full detailed analysis memorandum be presented United Nations later. After alleging "Government done almost nothing for national home and very little for inhabitants country" Gurion said they did not want Committee feel Agency took view country had not benefited at all from mandatory administration. Administration had carried out works no administration need be ashamed". He exampled Haifa port many excellent roads agricultural tax relief health and education services. Gurion continued mandatory failed not because Jews Arabs had not co-operated but mandatory refused co-operate mandate. White Paper removed moral and legal basis present regime which was arbitrary rule based on force alone. After examining contradictions in plans both called M-national - one Zioniat (Hashomer Hatzair) and other "based on very denial of Zioniem and national home" (White Paper) he added problem could not be settled

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He proceeded reject continuation by setting up bi-national state. mandate whether British or United Nations. What single mandatory could not do joint trusteeship able do far less. Only by establishing Palestine as a Jewish state could true objectives - immigration and statehood for Jews and economic and social progress for Arabs ... be accomplished. Final sentence called for immediate abolition White Paper establishment Jewish state and promotion Jewish-Arab alliance. Second witness Rabbi Fishman traced history Jews religious associations with Palestine. Agency's economic expert David Horiwitz spent hour supporting with aid numerous diagrams two contentions he outlined - one country's economic absorptive capacity adequate solve large scale immigration problem and two process absorption Jews "has had and will have favourable effect conomic condition Araba". Committee members put no questions this stage but Guatemalan delegate gave notice of intention to seek evidence from Jewish Agency Legal Experts in regard to Emergency Regulations. Agency case continues Sunday. Ends.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

B.B.C. - Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.

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371 /61782

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 6th July, 1947.

07.00 hrs. R. 7th

TREAT AS IMMEDIATE PRESS

For Sabine from Stubbs.

PALNEWS 12.

Further economic evidence Jewish Agency submitted UNS.C.OR essaion this morning. Agency Treasurer Eliszer Keplan outlined Jewish plan for economic development Palestine. He declared aim Mandatory Governments intervention economic affairs had been "keeping the balance" - mainly not development but restriction and sufferers had been Jews and Arabs slike. Reference publication last week Irrigation Water Bill, Kaplan said "We amazed by Government's decision introduce such radical legislation putting all underground water under strict Government bureaucratic control without recourse Courts, at time when whole question Palestine subjudice". General tendency this law as most laws enacted since 1939 restrictive and uncreative. Palestine needed Development Authority determined execute large development schemes combined large immigration. Such development and initiative primary economic requirement Jewish and Arab population resident Palestine and many hundreds thousands Jews needing come palestine. Took as main themes what he termed legends of land shortage and water scarcity leading to main contention country can absorb at least one million immigrants.

Kaplan criticised latest Government Memorandum statement that main impediment large scale planning remained uncertainty availability land and water resources. Government had translated uncertainties into policies standing as barriers across mainline economic progress. Palestine contained sufficient land and water feed two and three times present population, Dealing land, said White Paper 1939 with land prohibitions and restrictions blow not only Jews but

/major

major handicap proper development country as whole. Obstacles in way rapid development stressed by Government "certainly exist" but were not scarcity natural resources. They connected with present system land tenure, lack education and training and lack capital. Referring "stultifying legend" of water scarcity, Kaplan contended irrigated area could be eight times present size. Dealing Hays - Savage irrigation scheme regretted "up till now most of criticism by Government had been kept secret". and American experts ready appear before present Committee to explain scheme - even in Europe if wanted latest scheme Agency's Agricultural Research Institute covered two and half million dunem development area inclusive Coastal plain and Huleh Jezreel and Asdrelon areas. Present value farm output this area about five million pounds - estimated volume future output eighteen million pounds. Plans cost conscious, therefore he emphasised presence large number new consumers precondition full utilisation Palestine Agricultural resources. Palestine contains more land and water than required for one million Jewish immigration. "Serlous disagreement possible only if significant multiples one million considered". Government disclosed in recent Memorandum basic lack understanding fundamental nature Agency's work Palestine in accusing Jewish economic system of exclusive racialism. "We Jews hew own wood and draw own water", neither Governments foreign trade nor Foreign Exchange Policy were governed by objective fostering Palestine economic development. Stressing Jewish contribution Government revenue more than three times that of Araba in past year and claiming considerable financial economic benefits to Arab neighbours "during year 1946-47 we Jews contributed about eight million pounds to Arab community through Government fiscal mechanism alone", Kaplan questioned evaluation implied by Governments statement in Memorandum advocating "willingness Arab Jews contribute according means and needs of other". Jews accepted this as general principle, but required consider not only needs existing population Palestine but needs Jews abroad. Minetynine per cent immigrants now arrive Palestine penniless. Other witness, F. Bernstein, Agency Trade Department, alleged Government uses Jewish tax money largely for Arab development. British administration saw main danger in Jewish ability for colonisation and in development absorptive capacity Palestine to degree there could be absorbed immigrants to total "most frightening to British Administration". Suspicion was growing Government was deliberately attempting stifle Jewish industry. Through control dollars and imports United Kingdom has been exploiting Jewish Palestine on very large scale. Criticised exaggerated prices and profits charged for oil and oil products -/main

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main source of industrial power. Government had not used interest in Middle East petroleum business to protect Palestine industry. Today's hearing attracted small audience due partly absence again Arabs. Agency evidence continues tomorrow when expected questioning by Committee because begins. Ends.

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P. 47

INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunninghem)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 7th July, 1947. R. 8th " "

07.00 hrs.

TREAT AS IMMEDIATE

Stubbs to Sabins.

PALMENS 15.

Today's four hour session U.H.S.C.O.P. devoted questioning Gurion by Committee members. Chairman required intervene several times in lively exchanges Indian member and Gurion over hature questions and answers. Chairman outset suggested Gurion in evidence Friday place conflict Jews and Araba in background. Did Gurion agree solution conflict Jaws and Arabs would result relegation conflict Jows and mandatory to secondary place? Gurion disagreed alleging if Jaw Arab conflict existed it was one mided -Jews underled right Arebs to live in Palestine. Gurion denied having referred to mandatory as pro-Arab "I doubt If (71t) very much". Main feature remainder questioning focussed oh situation in event establishment Jewieh state: Gurion visualised unequivocal decision giving Jeva majority in Palestine. Jewish Agency would develop twofold plan; 1. Immigration million Jews and 2. large scale development plan already outlined including development Arab areas and reising Areb living standard. Questioned regarding Areb reaction such situation Gurion declared himself optimistic Jova Araba would co-operate but added "it might take some time" arising out this members repeatedly questioned Gurion on his views as to necessity of force to impose lumigration. Indian saked "Would it not mean absolutely bloody war hetween you and Araba" Gurion efter calling attention armed force used stoppage immigration declared TIT United Wations admitted Jowish clein it would be their duty if necessary to enforce it" answering Chairman's query to what extent force would be necessary Curlon replied "Jaws unasked /mandahory

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mandatory to impose immigration. Jows would do that themselves" Canadian delegate drew attention to situation nineteen twenty two shielding immigration". Gustemals queried when there was case "If matter left in hands Arabs and Jews would Jews be content?" Gurion raplied "In face of no alternative yes", promising greatest effort come agreement with Araba Gurion stated if Araba then threatened force "we will take care ourselves". Questioned at length about interim supervision Gurion said while Agency would develop plan certain matters like security would be left in hands United Nations Authority, Jews offered no plan regarding "supervision"-that was matter for United Nations. Gurion agreed question supervision unarising if partition adopted since Jews could establish viable Jewish state immediately. Czechoslovek alluded Jewish refutation mandate or trusteeship and bi-nationalism and queried whether this did not mean no confidence in possibility co-operation with Arabe. Gurion replied when Peel Commission decided for partition, Arab leader submitted through intermediaries proposals for co-operation. Jews told them Muftl behind proposals. Gurion exampled this as arab reaction in face of a decision. Gurion said Jews still stood by attitude at informal talks in London this year but they were proposed to consider a Jewish state in an adequate area K of Palestine. Chairman raised question relations Jewish Agency and Haganeh. Gurion replied they were relations of Agency to Jewish population in Palestine. Haganah was established forty years earlier for defence Jews. He sure Haganah glad appear before Committee - he uncertain their ability appear publicly. Czechoslovak referred Gurion claim Jewish millions murdered Nazi in Europe would been saved if Government had applied mandate provisions for immigration. Went on to query whether low immigration years twenty seven to thirty one was result Government prevention large immigration. Gurion said Paleutine as country itself was not place of immigration but of migration -Jows had to create new economy and make place for immigrante. Jews had to carry out all development without Governmental authority. Ends.

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⁻ Mr. H. Bosley.

⁻ Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.

INVARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO 8. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 8th July, 1947.
R. 9th " 07:00 hrs.

No. 14 PALNEWS.

Following for Sabine from Press Officer. Begins.

weizmann speared before U.N.S.C.O.P. Committee this morning in private capacity but speaking, he believed, mind overwhelming majority Jewish people everywhere. He attracted largest audience yet - auditorium filled except seats allocated Arabs. Feature over two hours speech definite pleas to Committee adopt partition and above all see such decision carried out quickly. Gave reasons:

- 1. Partition fincal (? final) and helped dispel some of Arabs fears.
- 2. Meant equality status with Arab neighbours, which most important prerequisite . for good relations.

Quoted letter received two days ago from Smuts, saying

"I see now no escape except way partition = 8.A.H.S. - my opinion as one authors Balfour Declaration may carry some weight with Committee - - - it is something concrete and definite and not another and further postponement decision which can brock no further delay".

/Weizmann

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Weizmann recommended Peel proposals plus Wegev area as Jewish State and possibility Palestine becoming again land flowing milk and honey. Would partition, he queried, produce friction. We believed if this project had authority, dignity and morel force, United Mations Arabs eventually would acquiesce. Bossibly extremists either side would not, but he did not think difficulties insuperable. Answering Chairman later, Welzmann opposed federal schemes which lacked finality and allowed room for "pulling" by either side. Federalisation involved also third party which led stagnation. Further questioned by quatemala, who visualised Federal State with Council appointed by United Wations to govern and withtpower each State legislate for I teelf and develop, Weizmann asked time consider this "new avenue". He will submit answer later. When Hen Gurion questioned towards close session as to view Jowish Agency partition and Weizmann's scheme for partition, Gurion said Agency told Government while they requested Western part Palestine in full, they willing consider vials State less than whole Western Palestine. Questioned regarding Federation, he said would welcome Federation with Arab State and neighbouring States on some basis as Australia Member British Commonwealth, but if Jewish State to be part rederation as Amurican States part United States this would be denial idea Jewish Independence. Resuming summary Weizmann's ovidence:

Weizmann condemned White Paper as encouraging Arabs belleve in fruits "little violence" and for releasing certain phenomena contrary Jowish ethics breaking commandment not to kill, inconceivable ten years ago. Hobody deplored present breaking more than most fews Felestine. Weizmann added (I hope your international action will cleanse us of this evil". Discussing personal efforts co-operate Arabs, he declared there was never a year when attempt not made some understanding. It perhaps responsibility one all group men. Buftl bears responsibility he has never allowed these cagotiations come anything. He said Handate not unworkable but rendered amorkable since White Paper. Definite Balfour Declaration said there no doubt Sritish Government meant in time there evolve "Jewish State in Palestine" and he referred immediately after to Supporting definition amputation Transjordan from Falestine. declaration read telegram Government sent Buchanan Ambassador Bussia 1917 for information Russian Jows: /"Britleh

5 6 Reference: **FO** 371 /61782

"British Government has Issued official declaration regarding re-establishment of Jewish State in Pelestine". Referring recent Government memorandum submitted palestine". Referring recent Government memorandum submitted UN.S.C.O.P. alleging Jewish development, while benefiting Arabs, created disparity, he agreed Jewish development created difficulties for administration but Jews could not afford go slow. Slowing down progress meant so many deaths and so much destruction. Talk of disparity in such sense by Government unjust. Refuting possibility return Jews Germany and Central Europe, Weizmann declared "To ask Jews return to live among hatreds of present tombstones of past asking too much of flesh and blood." Ends.

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- Mr. H. Beeley:

INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FEON PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Gunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 9th July, 1947.
R. 9th " 21.35 hrs.

PALNETTS No. 16.

From Stubbs for Sabine.

Guatemala Member disclosed UNSCOP session this morning that at private session of Committee he expressed view Emergency Regulations Palestine illegal under Handates He seld this in answer to Chairman on latter querying his aim in questions to Doctor Eliash, Vasa Leumi Legal Adviser, regarding basis regulations. Eliash said in 1937 there was Special Order in Council, which gave extremely wide powers to High Commissioner to enact such legislation. Basis of that Order in Council was Foreign Jurisdiction Act of 1890. Courts Palentine raled that Mandate being Covenant between Allied Powers and Government, only former or successors could raise question legislation being contrary dandate, but Palestine people unable do so. Referred by Quatemala to Mandate Articles, Eliash contended it was understood Mandatory legislated in Palestine through mechinery Local administration but was still limited to Mandate provisions and aculd not emach legislation contradictory to such provisions. In earlier statement, Eliesh said, reference regulations, they could be promulgated even orally, be contrary to any other law and yet prevail. Bon Zvi, Prisident, opening Vasd Leumi case, said "We identify curselves with the Jewish Agency, domanding establishment Jowish State in Pelestino". Another Yead Leumi witness, Doutor Katznelson, declared Government regarded Visher mainly as source of Government revenue and alleged deversment "shirking" duties to regard to rockel cervices for Jews. Government argued unable set aside larger sums social services owing large Security expenditure. Even escepting that asyument, he querros whother Jerich taxpayer should been has y texation to enable doperament asingain

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regime devoid moral or constitutional basis. Jewish Agency's complaint that the Jewish Community paid two thirds of the taxes and received approximately one third of the services was questioned at the outset of the session by delegates of Holland and Czechoslovakia. Dutch pointed out it was normal for richer section of the population to provide for poorer and considered Agency's complaint at variance with stated desire to improve the Arab standard of living. One of Reconomic experts, Bernstein, replying said principle of deviding taxes according to needs of different sections of population accepted, but in Palestine use of taxes at moment was political as well as social. Kaplan, Agency Treasurer, said chief dissgreement in matter lay in Government's evaluation of means. In tax received from Arab town Wablus and a Jowish community of similar size there was discrepancy not due to differences in wealth but to execution of law. Datch Delegate asked for details of Government's import policy, which according to agency, hindered Jewish industry. Bernstein alleged Covernment's policy was licences for consumer goods rather than capital goods. Result country "cather awamped" goods already produced locally, while industry short machinery. Given permission to use dollare, Jews could obtain as much they necded.

Indian Delegate asked whether large nume invested in land settlement were commensurate with results. Horowitz said results justified expense. Uruguayan asked why Agency considered restrictive the Draft Ordinance for control of water. Keplan said too large powers given Government and there was no recourse to law. Agency is to submit detailed criticism Ordinance to Government.

Cooles sent to:-

B.B.C. Foreign Office

- Mr. J. Granfell Williams

Mr. H. Beeley

Reference: **FO** 371 /61782

INVARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Press Officer)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 10th July, 1947.

R. loth

19.20 hrs.

No.17 PALMEWS

Following for Sabine from Stubbs. Begins.

Chief Rabbi Herzog, in evidence U.N.S.C.O.P. session this morning, said failure Government's handling problems explained by unsympathetic, uncomprehending shallow interpretation Jewish History. He pained see supplement to Government survey presented U.N.S.C.O.P. reduce account of Jewish history Palestine in Bible story to "miserable recital tribal worship and tribal warfare". Survey gave every detail sacred association palestine for Christians and Moslems, but completely silent message Hebrew prophecy - said hothing great developments recorded Mishnah and Talmud. He urged Committee visit Jewish camps Europe, where conditions reached "breaking point". He refuted allegations that in Jewish State non-Jewish religion be adversely affected. Evidence led also behalf Agudath Israel. Chairman Rabbi Lewin demanded political regime Palestine capable guaranteeing free immigration Jews and development country.

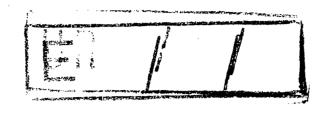
Outset session questioning continued Vaad Leumi representatives. Katzenelson, asked to explain reference Government's educational system as "purely Arab", said Arab system maintained by Government and Jewish system maintained by vaad Leumi, exception grant-in-aid some 25 per cent Government's educational budget. As approximately same number Jewish as Arab children attend school, Government spending four times as much for Arab child as for Jew. Reference health services, Katzenhelson asserted whereas Britain spent ten pounds per head of population, Palestine Government spent just over one pound. Answer query land registration, Eliash, Vaad Leumi Legal Advisor, referred Order-in-Council amendment, without which Land Laws would be invalid. During questions Cyprus camps, Katzenslson alleged overcrowding and water shortage. When Chairman queried whose jurisdiction camps under Katzenelson replied "the Cyprus Authorities". Ends. Copies sent to:-

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Mr. H. Booley.

- Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

MADELERA

FROM PALESTINE (Press Officer)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 11th July 1947. R. 11th

21.00 bre.

TRHAT AS IMMEDIATE

No. 18 PALNEWS

Following for Sabina from Stubbs. Regins.

After aerial tour Palestine early today, U.N.S.C.O.P. delegates held short session hear Christian Churches and WIZO representatives. In joint memorandum submitted by Bishop Church of England Jerusalem and Moderator Church Scotland Presbytery Jerusalem, opening sentence read "Christian case Palestine constantly in danger being forgetten or underestimated". Bishop stated administration in very considerateness for religious feelings of nonchristians been sometimes hard on religious feelings christians. He added Christians been hurt by Committee's decision sit on Sundays. Presumably alluding this Chairman, at close session, in intimating Committee would sit Sunday, said he regretted necessity but time Committee's disposal "is so short". Bishop gave Committee examples lack freedom religious liberty in Palestine. He stated three orthodox Jews asked him to plead with U.N.S.C.O.P. for right strictly orthodox Jews to organise as religious community apart from Kennseseth Israel. Bishop informed twenty five thousand orthodox Jews prepared form separate community now and another twenty five thousand would join in week if this liber by allowed. Churches memorendum contained statement that in connection Galilee, they distressed see growing industrialisation and connercialisation places which good taste as well religious sensibility would have preferred keep inviolate. It was urgued that in estimate position three main religions the interest of adherents not only in Palostine but throughout world should be taken into account. If canstwo majority groups in country was weighed in light of needs /and

and aspirations of their co-religionists throughout world, Christian case also should be considered in light world Christendom.

Feature please women speakers for WIZO was that by Mrs. Sieff on behalf Council Jewish Woman's Organisations of Palestine. She demanded thirty thousand children from D.P. camps Europe and two thousand in Cyprus be immediately released to Palestine. Committee adjourned till Sunday. Ends.

Copies sent to:-

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- Mr. H. Beeley. - Mr. C.W. Baxter.

3. B. C.

- Mr. J. Granfell Williams.

INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Press Officer)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 13th July, 1947. R. Lith

10.30 hre.

MADEXED

IMMEDIATE

PAINEWS No. 19

Following for Haler from Press Officer.

For three hours today U.M.S.C.O.P. listened three appeches by officials Communist Party of Paleatine voicing demand "Both Arab and Jewish masses" for evacuation British from Palestine and end to mandate which was "history of Colonial oppression and exploitation". First speaker, Samuel Mikanie, a Secretary of Party in apsech full of repetitions declared party were first fighters for mobilisation masses in Paleatine problem Party had worked people of dangers many intrigues inside outside United Mations and most eignificent success imperialist intrigues - absunce representatives Arabe from U.N.S.C.O.P. meetings, Party regretted for Imperialist reasons - namely to provent participation Soviet Union in U.N.S.C.O.P. - Britain and American nullified proposal include big powers in Committee. Middle East oil one principal reasons why Imperial powers wished retain hold Peleatine. Military and Police Forces Palestine Day so large there was one soldier or policeman to every thirteen civilians. After dealing at length with "divide and rule policy administration", speaker referred to High Commissioner's reference recently at Lydda when speaker said His Excellency "devoted srux of speech to communal provocation by stating 70% Government income came from Jewish pockets while 69% expenditure was directed lenefit Araba".

(Note - High Commissioner did not refer general budget in giving above figures. His remarks confined to education figures only). /Speaker

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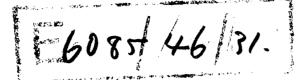
Speaker declared High Commissioner had revealed "his real aim of increasing national tension during visit U.M.S.C.O.P. this country". He quoted new Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia as example lands where many peoples can co-operate. Demanding end mandate, evacuation British troops, proclamation independence Palestine, he said Arabs Jews would work together. He added "We emphatically reject partition".

Another Secretary, Meir Wilner, wanted date fixed by United Nations for evacuation both British Army and Police. Security Council United Nations should appoint Commission carry out decisions on independence and convene representatives Jewish Arabs democratically elected to determine country's future regime on principle of two free peoples with full equality of rights. Dr. Ehrlich, member Central Committee Communist Party Palestine, declared soldiers in Palestine systematically trained in spirit of racialism and quoted General Barker order. He charged Army and Police with murder, rape and pillage. Ends.

Copies sent to:-

B.B.C. Foreign Office

- Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.
- Mr. H. Beeley.
- Mr. C.W. Baxter.



INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Press Officer)

NO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 14th July, 1947. R. luth 22.50 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

INDEXED

PALMEWS Wo.20.

Following from Stubbs to Halar.

Strongest edvocate bi-national state based political parity Dr. J.L. Magnes on thined case before U.N.S.C.O.P. today. Andliorium orowded. Megnes regretted bi-netionalism never been given chance. Heither Government Jewish Arab loaders ever made determined attempt make co-operation chief objective of major policy. British Government Iniled implement Anglo-American inquiry recommendations this direction. Switzerland proved bi-nationalism based parity possible. British as others must meke concessions - Palestine should be declared perpetually neutral and not used as military neval sir base by any power. Regarding suggestion for transfer Palestine for transitional period to United Mations trusteeship system quatamaian delegate naked if Magnes onvisage particular country as trustee. Magnes posmued Erifein would. Gave reasons that Eritain had interests this pert world and also tromendous experience over twenty five years which is not just to be put saide". Some of us Magnes continued had great admiration for Britain's traditional liberalism and particularly for way Britain changing from Was one of great political. Imperialism to Commonwealth policy. movements of blatory. A Trusteeship Council presumably would exercise control over whoever appointed trustee Palestine. Askel whether Jeve Arabs would be bappy under Britlah trusteeship Megnes said speaking for Joys be thought if present problems solved in spirit on-operation down would be happy. They could find expression wish view weven in most extreme quarters",

/movioaging

Envisaging development self-government besed on parity Magnes recommended while mendate lasts immediate sppointment equal number Jows Arabs to executive Council Government to Secretariat as heads non controversial Government to secretarize as means non eventual and departments central government as presidents Courts and District Commission, which would report to constituent constituent assembly of equal numbers Jews Arabs. In event assembly disagreement decision left Trusteeship Council. Constitution would require provide may out deadlook. He exampled arbitration tribumal appointed by United Mations. On Jewish immigration Magnes urged lemigration to parity with Araba and repld admission handred thousand displaced persons.
He regarded partition not only impracticable but misfortune.

Copies sent to:-

Porcign Office

- Mr. H. Becley. - Mr. J. Granfell Williams.

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INVAED TELEGRAN

er clair

FROM PALESTINE (Press Officer)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 15th July, 1947. H. 16th "

MOEKED

11,20 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

PALMENS No.21

Pollowing for Haler from Stubbs, Begins.

U.N.S.C.O.P. today beard representatives Jewish Arab Rapprochasat League, founded during Arab riots and adhered to by Leftwing Hashomir Hetzelr and Cotor Magnes Thed Group, and questioned Communists further.

Secretary League, Arron Coben, granted one hour read brankynine page memorandum after his protest against Chairman's request that paper be entered on minutes and considered as read. Cohen alleged both Arabs Jews believe Handatory greatly responsible aggravation national conflict but said day to day co-operation despite existing political situation testifies to vitality common interests. Outlining future plans he said Jews want freedom immigrate sattle and achieve political independence; Araba want rise standard living freedom fuedal demiration and also shility schleve political independence. "We believe," he said, "both can obtain in internationally guaranteed bi-national state in which two equal nations will enjoy equal national status, regardless relative numbers".

Citing Government failure draw two people together, Cohen said Mandatory sould have undertaken large scale irrigation projects serving interests Jew Arab, could have made special grants economic enterprises operated jointly, could have introduced Hebrew in Arab schools and aided extension Arabic in Jewish schools. Instead, alleged Coben, Britain followed policy hinting one side that negotiations with Britain would obtain greater concessions than co-operation with other side. For example, when "important Arab circles" /1943

1943 attempted contact Jows suggesting Jowish immigration numerical parity, Jowish leaders hesitated accept as "encouraged hints promises British that Jows no need reach an agreement Araba. Now that tables reversed, Arab leaders encouraged disregard necessity co-operation. (?unquote omitted) Cohan then traced history Mandate, attempting prove that Araba encouraged oppose satablishment national home even to extent Government maintenance "calmose and complete indifference to religious and national incitement". There not one law he said prohibiting untional incitement any nature. Exampling indifference Government to Arab Jewish attempt co-operate politically, Cohen cited failure police find murderer Fawzi el Husseinl and said "Attitude authorities this and similar political murders means blood Araba who seek understanding Jews can be spilled with impunity".

Ernst Simon, Chairman Executive Committee League said not speaking name Yishuv or Zionist movement but offering opinion group which devoted much thought solution problem.

Communist Party representatives, answering questions, alleged complete denial civil liberties palestins and added that presence British troops South Palestins where not needed security reasons clear indication Britain preparing strengthen position preparation third world war. Answering Dutch delegate on number Jews wishing come Palestine and "we understand great majority displaced persons camps wish do so" Communists said Party believed Jews should return countries origin if wished do so and immigrate if unable to do this. British decision admit Ukranians whom classified as collaborators and Canada for taking "Anders bendits" when Jews not admitted was bitterly attacked. Chairman said sharply "Choose your words nore carefully", Ends.

Copies sent to:

Foreign Office B. B. C.

- Mr. H. Baslay.

- Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.

ence: FO 371 /6178

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C. V.

INVARD TELEGRAM

WOEXES

FROM PARASTINE (Press Officer)

S. OF S. COLOWIES.

15., 16th - 11.7. 1947.

07.00 hrs.

TALLERS Wo.22

Following from Stubbs to Halero

Shertel refuted recent Government memorandum suggestion disparity Jews Arabs Crown result Jewish development at today's U.N.S.C.O.P. Session when he began summing up Agency case. Shertok said slowing Jewish progress would hinder Arab development without lessoning disparity. Accusing Government doing nothing itself lessen gulf he stated Covernment free do great deal raise Arab standards by improving Arab labour conditions. Military Government and oil companies together employed fifty per cent Arab workers but rages notoriously low. Saying he did not grudge Eritish police expetriation or housing allowance Shertok asked why basic wags so much lower for Falestinian and why Government "obstinately refused" insert fair wages clause into Public Works contracts despite repeated Jewish requests. He cited report 1928 on whether minimum wage law should be introduced and quoted majority report British District Commissioner and Areb employer as "owing absence organised Arab labour unable say if law wanted by Arab workers". Jawish Histadruth representative submitted minority report in favour law as helping improve Arab conditions. Shertok asked opportunity lessen Arab Jewish disparity by putting onus on Jews to remove it. This not altruistic desire he said but in Jewish colf interest as Jaws surious protect their living standard against cheap labour and increase Arab market Jawish goods.

/Answering

Y

Answering questions at earlier session by Indian delegate Shertok gave figures Pelestine Potash profits since imention company and data on fate twenty Arab villages Indian alleged disappeared result Jewish land acquisition. Shortok said all displaced Arabs compensated and offered land elsewhere, adding that three villages named never existed medern times, three still exist and of thirteen in swampy Emek twelve owned absentee landlords Beirat. Impossible drain Enck without moving villagers who in fact often moved at whim landlords. Shertok asserted land sales gave Arabs money pay off debts increase productivity remaining land so in fact one best ways Arabs have of raising living standards. Dealing land sales since land laws Shertok gave figures land acquired each zone stating all acquired legally. He reminded delegates Lord Jowett's description House of Commons of law as "savage" and said application lew equally savage. He exampled plot waste land outside Jerusalem which Government refused Jewish ex-soldiers and refusal Government permit Jewish settlement near Latrum Rachange one dunam Arab owned land which driving wedge Jewish village with two dunama Jewish land near adjacent Arab village despite willingness Arab owner sell. Shertok ended with plea for statehood as: I. Yishuv outgrown "leading strings" 2. Jews need statehood fit into general Middle East imperative need of Jews immigrate 4. pattern 3. Jewish people at stake, thertok continues tomorrow.

Labour (Histadruth) speaking before Shertok said Histadruth movement based on immigration. He called on Committee give Jews opportunity meet Araba as equals. He alleged Mandatory proposes transform National Home into only ghetto left in world. adding "tangled web legislation woven to shackle our progress". He added Government shown no understanding social needs Jewish worker but followed backward Colonial policy. Answering questions Gustamelan delegate Rubashov stated Jews frequently requested introduction social security so as raise Arab standards but Government taken no action. He accused Government of failure carry out law prohibiting child labour.

/Rabbi

Rabbi Duschinsky Chief Orthodox Ashkanazi community Rabbi Bengis President Religious Courts opened today a session with plea immigration certificates be allecated by Government and not Jewish Agency which they alleged discriminated against Orthodox Jews. Added that Orthodox Jewry can never recognise Agency as representative Jewish people because basis organisation not Holy Law. Rabbi Duschinsky told Chairman there about 7,000 Orthodox males Jerusalem and total number followers probably sixty thousand. Ende.

Copies sent to:~

Foreign Office B.B.C.

- Mr. H. Beeley. - Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.

6085 46/31

19 34 1947.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Press Officer)

INDEXED

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 17th July, 1946. R. 18th ""

11.15 hrs.

IMMEDIATE PALHEWS No.23.

Following from Stubbs to Halor. Begins.

Jerusalem this morning before Lebanon visit week-end.
Shertok completed Jewish Agency case with criticism
Government's failure to face up Arab "boycotting tactics".
He exampled appointment Municipal Commission for Jerusalem
when Araba refused rotation Mayors. If there was Jewish
State with sest United Mations, Arab States could not
continue boycott Jews. Jews then have legitimate weapons
self-defence. They could discontinue purchases from
neighbouring countries - purchase at inflated prices they
newforced by Government to pay. These potentialities were
in hand administration "who doesn't care use them".

Jewish presence accompany U.W.S.C.O.P: Beirut. Shertok urged strongly U.W.S.C.O.P. visit D.P. camps which he described as integral part Committee's inquiry. Consluded with plea report be prefaced emergency recommendation for immediate removal white Paper bane and immediate large scale immigration Palestine homeless Jaws.

rence: FO 371/6178?

/J.n

In enswer Urugusyan Delegate Shertok criticised administrations memorandum comments and implications regarding lack joint education Arabs and Jews. Establishment common schools helther possible nor desirable since meaning no hope revival independent cultural life. Encouragement given however to increase number bi-lingual speakers. Final evidence session given by E. Prminger, Member Central Committee Falestine Communist Union, who discussed Yishuv "greening under yoke Colonial enslavement". Struggle Yishuv's masses abated recently owing political miscalculation leadership Yishuv. His party urged creation independent democratic United State built on equality both peoples. Called for immediate termination mandate, abolition foreign administration, evacuation British forces, liquidation military bases Palestine. Answering questions said Party membership nine hundred and thousands followers. Chairman said end session if there were more public hearings they be announced usual wey.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office B.B.G. - Mr. H. Becley.

- Mr. J. Grenfell Williams.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 8th July, 1947. R. 8th " 21.05 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No.1297 Secret.

Following for Martin from Macgillivray. Begins.

Jewish Agency presented to the Committee last night and released to the press a 71-page printed document entitled "Political Survey 1946-47" which is described in covering letter as "the Jewish Agency's main political memorandum". It reviews the Anglesamerican Committee's Report and the Morrison Plan and examines various other political solutions. A chapter on terrorism and emergency legislation, which contains reference to the Rubovitch case, is largely a travesty of the facts and constitutes an unrestrained attack on the administration to which this Government intends to reply.

- While document is under examination here copy will be sent to you by fast air.
- We have been preparing here, at the request of the Chairman of the Committee, a summary of political events since January 1946, in continuation of chapter II of the survey. Consideration is now being given to the manner of its presentation upon its completion.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office

Mr. C.W. Baxter

Mr. H. Booley

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SA PRIG.

From the High Commissioner for Palestine.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date. 50th June .. 1947.

No...Saving.

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Enclosed are five copies of lists showing the names of the Secretariat of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine and the delegates, their alternates and the personal staff of the individual delegations of the eleven countries of which the Committee is composed.

Name

DELEGATIONS TO UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

Post

Country

	*···	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Australia	Delegate Alternate Delegate Secretary	Mr John D. L. Hood Mr Samuel L. Atyeo Miss Freeman
Canada	Delegate Alternate Delegate	Mr Justice the Honorable Ivan C. Rand Mr Leon Mayrand
Czechoslovakia	Delegate Alternate Delegate	Dr Karel Lisicky Dr Richard Pech
Guatemala	Delegate Alternate Delegate	Dr Jorge Garcia-Granados Mr E. Z. Gonzalez
India	Delegate Alternate Delegate Secretary Stenographer Clerk	Mr Justice Sir Abdur Rahman Mr V. Viswanathan Mr M. Rahman Miss M. McClellan Mr H. E. Palta
Iran	Delegate Alternate Delegate	Mr Nasrollah Entezam Dr Ali Adelan
Netherlands	Delegate Alternate Delegate	Dr N. S. Blom Dr A. I. Spits
Peru	Alternate Delegate	Dr Arturo Garcia
Sweden	Delegate Alternate Delegate	Mr Justice Emil Sandstrom Dr Paul Mohn
Uruguay	Delegate Alternate Delegate Secretary	Prof. E. R. Fabregat Mr Osca Secco Ellauri Mr Edmundo Sisto
Yugoslavia	Delegate Alternate Delegate Secretary Secretary Secretary Interpreter Press attaché Press attaché	Mr Vladimir Simic Dr Joza Brilej Mr D. Curcia Miss C. Milosevich Mme A. Nincic Mr D. Nincic Mr D. Timiotjevich Mr Rafalojvic

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LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE



ADVISORY STAFF

	A	DVISOLUE BIREE	
	Name	$\frac{Functions}{}$	$\underline{Country}$
1.	Dr Victor Hoo	Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	China
2.	Dr Alfonso Garcia Robles	Principal Secretary	Mexico
3.	Dr Ralph Bunche	Special Assistant to Dr Hoo	U.S.A.
4.	Mr Constantin Stavropoulos	Assistant Secretary — Expert on legal questions and protocol	Greece
5.	Mr Ian F. G. Milner	Assistant Secretary	Australia
6.	Mr Paul Cremona	Assistant Secretary	U.K.
7.	Miss Mary Ellen Ronald	Assistant to Principal Secretary	U.S.A.
8.	Mrs L. Erville	Research Assistant	Belgium
		. II	
	ADMI	NISTRATIVE STAFF	
9.	Mr Bernard G. Alexander	Chief Administrative Officer	U.K.
10.	Mrs Margaret Arakie	Assistant Secretary (in charge of archives and registry)	U.K.
11.	Mr Roscoe Lewis	Conference Officer	U.S.A.
12.	Mr Robert Boxeur	Financial Officer	U.S.A.
13.	Mr Joseph W. MacCabe	Travel and Accommodation Officer (will act also as Security Officer)	U.K.
14.	Mr Paul Leake	Documents Production Officer	U.S.A.
15.	Mr J. L. Salmon	Mechanic Operator, Documents	U.S.A.
16.	Mr M. Josephs	Mechanic Operator, Documents	U.S.A.
		\mathbf{III}	
	PUBLIC INFORM	ATION AND LANGUAGES STAFF	en egyele e di
17.	Mr George Symeonides	Public Relations Officer	Greece
18.	Mr Pierre Gohorel	Interpreter	France
19.	Mr Alexis Tatistcheff	Interpreter	U.S.A.
20.	Miss Irene Landry	Interpreter	Switzerland
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22.	Mr Albert Chapuis	Translator	France
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24.	Miss Winifred Wade	English Translator	U.K.
25.	Miss Anna Barbour	English Translator	Canada
26.	Miss Marina Orellana	Spanish Translator	Chile
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28.	Miss Rita Belanger	Bi-lingual	Canada
29.	Miss Fernande Charland	Bi-lingual	Canada
30.	Miss Alice Lalande	Bi-lingual	Canada
	Miss Irene Serres	Bi-lingual	France
32.	Miss Elizabeth Gustafson	Bi-lingual	U.S.A.
33.	Miss Juana de Szyszlo	Bi-lingual	Peru
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STENOGRAPHIC STAFF

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Name	Functions	$\underline{Country}$
34. Miss Ita Glance	Bi-lingual	U.S.A.
	Bi-linguel	U.S.A.
36. Miss Pat Hathaway	Bi-lingual	Australia
37. Miss Olive Havard	Bi-lingual	U.S.A.
38. Miss Geraldine Oliva	Bi-lingual	U.S.A.
39. Mrs Rouelle-Stenuit	Bi-lingual	$\mathbf{Belgium}$
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	English	U.S.A.
40. Miss Josephine Stieren	English	Belgium
41. Miss Jeanne Strauven	English	Canada
42. Miss Francois Beique	$\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{nglish}}$	U.S.A.
43. Miss Mary Faretra VERBATTM RE	PORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS	
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54. Miss Mariette Maeter	French Transcriber	$egin{array}{c} \mathbf{Belgium} \ - \end{array}$
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56. Miss Mary Harcourt	Precis Writer	U.K.
57. Mr Gerald de Catalogne	Precis Writer	Switzerland
J.,		

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PALESTINE

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Registry Number E6090/46/31

C.O.

Dated Comm'd.

in Registry

11 July, 1947

Palestine - Special Committée

Refers C.O. 1et. to Palestine 1374 of 25 June (E5811/46/31). The Committee has made no decisions as to their procedure after conclusions of public hearings in Palestine. Which cannot end before 20th. July. he consideration has yet been gliven to nature ex evidence likely to be requested from representative of H.M.G.

Last Paper.

6088

References.

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Aft. Sharten

Mr. Mac Gillis ray thinks the bhimmen may wish to dispurse with nel evidence from H.M.G., and suggests that it may I hot not to meso for an early decision on this question.

Su also £ 5948 and minutes there. 9 submit a draft letter to Mr. Martin.

HBerly 121

(Action completed.) Next/Paper.

6092

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.I .

CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE, JERUSALEM, PALESTINE.

29th June, 1947.

16

TOP SECRET

My dear Martin,

In reply to your telegram No. 1374 of the 25th June, I have already informed you (High Commissioner's telegram No-1244 of to-day's date), that no decisions have yet been made by the Committee as to their procedure after the conclusion of public hearings in Palestine. Indeed, no such decisions are likely to be made until the programme of hearings has been finally determined; and that will probably not be until after 5th July, which is the date line fixed by the Committee for receipt of applications to give oral evidence. They have already received a large number of applications to give evidence orally and they have decided, on the recommendations of sub-committee II, to hear the Jewish Agency (3 days), Dr. Weizmann, the Va'ad Leumi, the Histadruth, Ihud, the Council of the Ashkenazi Jewish community, the Palestine Communist Party, and Agudath Israel. Sub-committee II is still at work sifting the remaining applications and it is probable that the Committee will be obliged to add quite a number of other organisations and individuals to the above list, including the Anglican Bishop and, possibly, at the very end, the High Commissioner or his representative. should say, therefore, that public hearings cannot end before 20th July and that the Committee is very unlikely to leave Palestine before 25th July.

2. You have also asked me in your telegram to give early some indication of the nature of the evidence that the Committee is likely to request from the representative of His Majesty's Government. It is clear from informal conversations I have had

J.M. Martin, Esq., C.B., C.V.O., The Colonial Office, London.

on/

Reference: FO 371/61782

on this question with Bunche, and Robles, that no consideration has yet been given to it by the Committee. Robles did say, however, that he expected that the Committee would wish to take evidence formally from the representative of the Mandatory Power while they were at Geneva, but that they were unlikely to make a decision, or even discuss the question, until after they had left Palestine. I replied that, owing to other engagements, it might not be very convenient for a senior representative of His Majesty's Government to come to Geneva at very short notice. said that I hoped it would be possible to give well in advance some indication of the nature of evidence required, if in fact oral evidence was to be asked for. He undertook to speak to the Chairman on the subject.

Subsequently, I had a talk with Mohn (who is discreet, very helpful and frank and has considerable influence with the Chairman). He took the view that if the Committee, while at Geneva, merely wished to obtain facts from the Mandatory Power these could be received in writing from me as Liaison Officer; that if they wished to receive formal oral evidence he did not know what the nature of that evidence was likely to be; the Foreign Secretary had already announced in the House of Commons on the 18th February that H.M.G. did not intend to recommend any particular solution; the Committee might, however, wish H.M.G.'s representative to clarify the position in regard to British interests in Palestine, strategic, economic or other than as trustee; there were members of the Committee who were interested in such questions; the Chairman, on the other hand, might take the view that this was a matter outside their terms of reference and one which were best left for clarification by discussion in the General Assembly. Although he did not say so, I was left with the impression that Mohn felt it would be unwise to raise this question of H.M.G.'s evidence in Committee, at least at the present time when their minds were fully occupied with the problem of the conflict of interests of Arab and Jew.

It may well be that the Chairman anticipates that the questioning of a representative of H.M.G. by some of the members of the Committee would inevitably concentrate on this question of British interests and thus take the Committee, publicly, into deep waters which were best left to be navigated in the General Assembly; he may therefore wish to try and dispense with oral evidence from H.M.G. but realises that the only chance of achieving this lies in avoiding discussion of the question in Committee until it is no longer practicable to make arrangements. This is mere surmise on my part; but you may think that, on account of these considerations, it were best not to press for any early decision on the matter by the Committee.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) (D.C.MACGILLIVRAY).

5 6 Reference: **FO** 371 /6178?

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OUT FILE 15 July

E6090/46/3

(from Sir Nevile Butler)

I refer you to Jerusalem telegram no. 1284, peragraph 2, and also to paragrophs 2 and 3 of MacGillivray's letter of the 29th June to you, dealing with the possibility that the United Nations Committee may wish to hear a representative of His Majesty's Government at Geneva.

2: From Sandstrom's remarks to the High Commissioner and his alternate's to MacGillivray, I should judge that he at least is doubtful of the wisdom of taking oral evidence from a representative of H.M.G., and that he may decide not to take the initiative in raising the question in the Committee. MacGillivray suggests that you may think it better, in these circumstances, not to press for an early decision on whether or not the mandatory Power shall be heard in Geneva. I think however that before reaching this conclusion we should consider carefully the adventages and disadvantages, from our point of view, of direct contact with the Committee.

3. On the debit side, it is clear that a spokesman of the mandatory Power would probably be confronted with embarrassing questions about our strategic interest in Palestine. He might also be pressed to say whether various action would be acceptable to H.M.G., and he would certainly not be in a position to state positively that any one of them would be /acceptable

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H23. 12/7

acceptable. This is so, I think, not only because we do not wish to say anything so calculated to influence the Committee's findings, but also because the acceptability of the Committee's proposals may depend to a considerable extent on the attitude adopted towards them by the General Assembly.

4. On the other hand, it is possible that the Committee will give serious consideration to proposals which/not in any event be willing to implement ourselves, or which we should regard as dangerous in themselves whether or not we had the responsibility for carrying them out. In this event, we might find it essier to eliminate such proposals from consideration by presenting the arguments egainst them to the Committee before they draft their report, rather than by trying to kill them in the General Assembly when they lready had the sanction of approval, or at least mention, by the Committee. It is to our interest that the U.N. Committee should present an objective, well-informed and constructive report; and it seems reasonable to suppose that they are more likely to succeed in this if at some stage in their work they are able to exchange ideas with a representative of the Power which has hitherto been responsible for the government of Palestine.

5. No doubt there are other arguments which will occur to you. I should be glad to know whether you think that on balance it is better to leave the Committee alone

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

-C) 371 /61782

or to make some further approach to them on this subject.

MZ,

Yours ever

(59d.) Nevil Butler.

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| 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Reference: F 371 61782

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

82

FORFICH OFFICE. S.W.L

(E 6090/46/31)

15th July, 1947.

Dear Martin

May I refer you to Jerusalem telegram No.

1284, paragraph(2, and also to paragraph(2) and 3

of MacGillivray's letter of the 29th June to you,

dealing with the possibility that the United Nations

Committee may wish to hear a representative of His

Majesty's Government at Geneva.

- 2. From Sandstrom's remarks to the High Commissioner and his alternate's to MacGillivray, I should judge that he at least is doubtful of the Wisdom of taking oral evidence from a representative of His Majesty's Government, and that he may decide not to take the initiative in raising the question not to take the initiative in raising the question in the Committee. MacGillivray suggests that you may think it better, in these circumstances, not to press for an early decision on whether or not the mandatory Power shall be heard in Geneva. I think mandatory Power shall be heard in Geneva. I think however that befor reaching this conclusion we should consider carefully the advantages and disadvantages, from our point of view, of direct contact with the Committee.
- spokesman of the mandatory Power would probably be confronted with embarrassing questions about our trategic interest in Palestine. He might also be pressed to say whether various hypothetical solutions would be acceptable to His Majerty's Government, and he/...
- J. Martin, Esq. C.B., C.V.O., Commonwealth Relations Office,

ಆ ~ ? 617 CO

he would certainly not be in a position to state positively that any one of them would be acceptable. This is so, I think, not only because we do not wish to say anything so calculated to influence the Committee's findings, but also because the acceptability of the Committee's proposals may depend to a considerable extent on the attitude adopted towards them by the General Assembly.

4. On the other hand, it is possible that the Committee will give serious consideration to proposals which we should not in any event be willing to implement ourselves, or which we should regard as dangerous in themselves whether or not we had the responsibility for carrying them cut. In this event we might find it easier to eliminate such proposals from consideration by presenting the arguments against them to the Committee before they draft their report, rather than by trying to kill them in the General Assembly when they abready had the eanction of approval, or at least mention, by the Committee. It is to our interest that the United Nations Committee should present an Objective, well-informed and constructive report; and it seems reasonable to suppose that they are more likely to succeed in this if at some, stage in their work they are able to exchange ideas with a representative of the Power which has hitherto been/

PUBL 1 C **دن** OFFICE, 17 800

been responsible for the government of Palestine.

will occur to you. I should be glad to know whether you think that on balance it is better to leave the Committee along or to make some further approach to them on this subject.

Lours sour

(Sqd.) Neville Britler.

(N. Butler)

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E 6092 086

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Str A. Cunningtiam)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 3rd July, 1947.
R. 4th ""

07.00 hre.

No. 1267 Secret.

Following for Martin from MacGillivray, Begins.

Sandstrom told me today that he did not think it appropriate that the Committee should accept invitation to Trans-Jordan (see Amman's telegram to the Foreign Office No. 206 of 30th June) since the solution which would there be put before them was clearly one of those which would have to be considered by the Committee and it was undesirable that opportunity should be given for criticism that the Committee has been influenced by exparte representatives, moreover, a visit to Trans-Jordan and not to other Arab States may be misconstrued. He added that, if it were possible to meet King Abdullah at some social function in Jerusalem, he would welcome it.

- 2. He also said that time was now so short that he had given up hope that the Arabs of Palestine would come forward with evidence before the Committee left. Yesterday he and the Netherlands delegates in company with a Christian District Officer paid a visit at a few hours notice to a Christian village in Galilee and found it deserted except for children who shouted rudely at them that they were not wanted. This episode has I think convinced the Chairman that the Arab attitude towards the Committee has hardened and is deep seated.
- 3. As regards a visit to camps in Cyprus, he said that he himself would not go, but he thought it possible a number of other members would do so en route to Geneva.
- yesterday, Sandstrom took the opportunity to slip away from the rest of the party and visit Acre Prison alone with the District Commissioner without prior motico. He seemed satisfied with conditions in the prison. At the interview which he gave to Jewish prisoners belonging to the terrorist organisations they complained
 - (a) That they were not treated as prisomers and
- (b) That they had been brutally treated by the Police and soldiers and shot at while lying on the ground during mass escape from the prison.

Sandstrom said this morning that he regarded the first complaint as untenable and that the second, even if it had substance, was in regard to actions which were quite understandable in the circumstances. He is contemplating issue of a press release regarding his visit. Ends.

Copies sent to:- Foreign Office - Mr. C.W. Bexter

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Colonial Office, Downing Street, S.W. 1. - mli

75872/154

July 10, 1947.

My clear Beeley,

E 6115

You have noticed from Palestine telegram
PALNEWS 14 of the 8th July that Dr Weizmann
is reported as quoting a telegram from H.M.G.
to H.M. Ahmassador, Moscow, in 1917 authorizing
him to publish for the information of Jews in
Russia a statement that "the British Government
has issued official declaration regarding the
re-establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine".
We would be interested to know if there is any
record of such a telegram having been sent and if
the quotation from it is accurate.

Jourg eve, Evertellusin

(W.A.C. Mathieson)

H. BEELEY, ESQ., C.B.E.

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E 6116

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cumminghem)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 10th July, 1947. 11.45 hrs. R. 10th "

IMMEDIATE No. 1303 Confidential.

Chairman of U.N.S.C.O.P. has asked to be supplied with notes of 1946-47 Conferences in London with delegates from the Arab States and Arab Higher Committee.

- 2. I should be glad to know whether you see any objection to his being supplied with copies of these notes, provided that it is made clear to him that they are confidential documents, have never been published and should not be quoted.
- 5. Should you agree, I shall be grateful if you will send me by alk a complete copy of the notes of the first to twelfth meetings, plus note of constitutional proposals put forward by the Arab delegations; also spare copies of notes of eighth and minth meetings, to complete my file.



OUTWARD TELEGRAM

Enter 9

Cypher (O.T.P.)

E6/16/46/71.

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S. COLONIES.

Sent 12th July, 1947. 12.45 hrs.

INDEXED

IMMEDIATE No. 1522 Confidential. -

Your telegram No. 1303.

Chairman's request for record of London Conferences.

I see no objection to ducuments being made available to Chairman on strict understanding that they are for his personal and confidential use only. I could not repeat not agree that they should be supplied to the Committee as a whole.

- 2. I should be glad if you would point out to Chairman that attitude adopted by U.K. delegation at these meetings was coloured to some extent by absence of Jews. It consequently fell to U.K. delegates at times to be, as it were, advocates of the Zionist case, in order to induce Arab delegates to pay some regard to Jewish point of view. Converse conditions of course obtained at separate meetings with Jews. Without this caution there might be danger of Chairman misinterpreting basic attitude of H.M.G. to Palestine problem.
- 3. Documents requested have been despatched by air 11th July.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office

- Mr. Beeley

EASTERN

Enter

Parliamentary Question

*26. Mr. Mikardo,—To ask the Secretary of State for War, if his attention has been drawn to a document, reference No. M42, which was circulated from Sarafand on 2nd May 1947 by the adjutant of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, with instructions that it should be read by all officers and later made available for reading by other ranks, which included statements prejudging the findings of the United Nations Fact Finding Commission on Palestine; and whether he has any statement to make on the circulation by officers of political opinions on a matter which is sub judice. [Tuesday 8th July.]

Reading

F.O. ARE NOT ASKED TO ADVISE

Circulated Document

17. Mr. Mikardo asked the Secretary of State for War if his attention has been drawn to a document, reference No. M42, which was circulated from Sarafand on 2nd May, 1947, by the adjutant of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, with instructions that it should be read by all officers and later made available for reading by other ranks, which included statements prejudging the findings of the United Nations Fact Finding Commission on Palestine; and whether he has any statement to make on the circulation by officers of political opinions on a matter which is sub judice.

Mr. J. Freeman: I have no knowledge of this matter but am making inquiries.

371/61782

OFFICE,

(206) E 6722

498 PALESTINE Registry Number Elli FROM DatedReceived in Registry Last Paper (Minutes.)6127 H13.4/ References (Print)(How disposed of) (Action completed) (Index) Next Paper 38538

Parliamentary Question

* 16. Dr. Segal,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether he will give an assurance that His Majesty's Government will not reject the Report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine on the grounds of Arab non-co-operation. [Monday 7th July.]

Lab.

Preston.

ANSWERE - 7 JUL 1947

REPLY AT COMED.

Monday July 7th.

We shall I asked to accept or rejet, not the Ryat of the bommitte he the resolution

the General Assembly. E 6157

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ground that the Anats have I have

hand of the bommittee.

HBeeley 4/7

This might, of course, the which can the question raised of Mr. Segal might h selwant. He

9 thank there is no need to complicate the answer with these explanations. That submitted (c.o. concur).

Now ser revised draft. C.D. coman.

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9 JUL 1947

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Whater 5/ vii

PALESTINE (UNITED NATION'S SPECIAL COMMITTEE)

34. Dr. Segal asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he will give an assurance that His Majesty's Government will not reject the Report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine on the grounds of Arab non-cooperation.

Mr. Mayhew: I think my hon. Friend is under a misapprehension. The report of the Special Committee will be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations and not to His Majesty's Government. I can assure him, however, that, when the report is considered by the Assembly, the attitude of His Majesty's Government will not be affected by the fact that the Palestine Arabs have not co-operated with the Committee.

Dr. Segal: Can my hon. Friend also give an assurance that the Government will not insist on the complete rearming of both Jews and Arabs before we can implement any of the recommendations?

Mr. Mayhew: That is a much wider question.

- 7 JUL 1947

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6 Reference:	5	34	w	1 2

DRAFT REPLY

Dr. Segal. Monday, 7th July.

I think my honourable Friend is under a misapprehension. The report of the Special Committee will be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations and not to H.M. Government. I can assure him, however, that, when the report is considered by the Assembly, the attitude of H.M. Government will not be affected by the fact that the Palestine Arabs have not co-operated with the Committee.

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(130/12/47)

6240

British Legation Stockholm 7th July, 1947

15 JUL

Dear Eastern Department,

2740/46/2

Please refer to our letter 130/8/47 of April 28th last about anti-Semitic propaganda.

"Dagens Nyheter" of 27th June, 1947, reports that a number of organisations have written to the Swedish Minister of Justice requesting that measures be taken against the anti-Semitic propaganda which has been carried on for some time back in pamphlets in English, French and Swedish and been distributed by Einar Aberg, Norrviken on behalf of the Anti-Jewish Federation of Sweden. The petition characterizes the propaganda as bringing dishonour upon Sweden, adding that the British and French press have objected to this form of racial It should be possible, the hatred and defamation. petition continues, for the Swedish authorities to take legal action against this filthy propaganda while awaiting the passing of legislation which is being prepared by the Swedish Committee on Criminal Law to prevent racial hatred and the dissemination of anti-Semitic pornography. This propaganda is more discriminating against Swedish cultural life than against national Jewish groups in other countries. The petition has been signed for the International Federation of Women for Peace and Liberty by Birgitta Bellander, for the Women's Organisations Committee for International Questions by Kerstin Hesselgren (See Personalities No. 82), for the Scandinavian Artists' Circle by Gunnar Beskow, for the Swedish Society of Writers by Fredrik Ström; by Ivar Andersson (See Personalities No. 13) Chairman of the Swedish Press Association; for the Foundation for a Peace College by Henry Peter Matthias; for the Swedish Women's Federation of the Left by Kerstin Hesselgren (see above), for the PEN Club by H.R.H. Prince Wilhelm (see Personalities No. 3); for the Central Committee for Peace Questions by Gunnar Bellander. The Fredrika Bremer Federation has also approved of the petition in principle.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.

Yours ever, STOCKHOLM CHANCERY.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

AMENDED COPY (addition a underlined) Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

6247

D. 10th July, 1947.
R. 10th " "

14:00 hrs.

hrs. JUL

No.1304 Secret

Following for Martin from MacGillivray. Begins.

Wednesday 16th inclusive, but this is not exhaustive. It includes camera hearings of Council # of Sephardic Community and Custos of the Holy Land on Tuesday, public hearing of Anglican Bishop on Saturday, and of Thud on Monday. On Friday, in addition to hearing of Palestine Communist Party (who have asked for four hour session), Committee proposes to obtain aerial view of Palestine from Swedish aircraft. Committee has accepted suggestion of the High Commissioner that he should address them at informal meeting at Government House on the afternoon of 16th July.

2. Indian Delegate is apparently fairly confident that Arab States will respond to the invitation sent them yesterday by the Committee with the suggestion that the Committee should meet their Representative in Beirut or in Cairo; some Members of the Committee hope, however, that the Arab States may agree to send Representative to give evidence at Geneva, instead of in the Middle East. Ends.

m Correction received lith July.

Copies sent to:- Foreign Office - Mr. C.W. Baxter - Mr. H. Beeley

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S CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Asdernyallable to tomanates if an analysis of elaliavers as asked for. I suggest, however that presentation of the document should be delayanizalaque until the Committee pets to Geneval the should be delayanizalaque are not lively to get town to serious study. The the to lalestine; moreover, some one of the manest to the members will unquestionedly pane his copy of the document to the levish Agency; but the speed with which the document to the optortunity for making cross capits! out of "yet another secret Government document" will be reduced if the document is not not make eveilable while the Committee is still in Pelegantamatamate.

surrounded by local as well as during press reprosentatives.

Mohn and Bunche are more conscious than other members of the Committee and senior secretariat staff of the extreme shorthess of the time at the disposal of the Committee to formulate ideas and writerabreport or reports francios the need to get down without further delay to the examination of the facts of the color various obvious possible alternatives o They appear nowatos have see constituted themselves; at the Chairman streguest; into alworking group and have been plying me daving the Tast few days with to me requests for statistics, population maps; blank scribbling maps, etc. They are clearly studying forms of partition and there are signs that there is a group forming which tends to favour this :: solution in one form or another; my impression is that this is led by Sandstrom and Blom and that Entezam would personally be inclined to join them, but for obvious reasons may find it difficult to do so. Rand is outside it and at present clearly favours a solution along the lines of the Morrison plan with the central authority in the hands of an international trusteeship; I had thought at first that he would be a strong member of the committee but find him disappointing; if like Judge-Hutcheson he wishes, all the time that the were "back" home!" and is personally sunhappy here; to helis; "I" think; " too impulsive inchis decisions, too downright and with little colly o diplomatic sense. I doubt if he will be very much help to Sandstrom when it comes to arguing the lines of the report. (Incidentally, I understand it was he who drafted the death sentences resolution; if he had allowed Granados' draft to go before the full Committee and be voted upon there would have been no resolution at all). Entezam, on the other hand, is clearly a first class committee man, very able and tactful and, above all the others, capable of composing differences of opinion.

When Mohn and Bunche began to show interest in the data of partition the time appeared to me to be ripe to reveal privately the existence of the Harris analysis of past partition proposals. While Mohn was in my office on Saturday looking at maps and asking for other particulars, I therefore handed to him a copy of that document and authorised him to show it to Bunche and to Sandstrom on the understanding that it went no further. I explained that I thought he should be aware of the existence of this analysis since it would no doubt assist him and Bunche when considering various partition alternatives, that it was a production of the Colonial Office, but that it had not been desired to put it forward formally at the outset of the enquiry for use by the Committee in case it should be thought that, by doing so, His Majesty's Government was advocating, or, alternatively, indicating the objections to, any particular solution of the problem. If, however, the Committee as a whole should at any stage of their investigations be seriously examining the implications of various partition alternatives and should formally ask me, as the Government's liaison officer, for particulars of population, land holdings, taxation etc., then I thought it possible that His Majesty's Government would authorise the presentation of this document, in say, twenty copies, as a confidential document for study by the members of the Committee. I shall be glad to know if you approve this action on my part and, further, if you agree that the document should be

J.M. Martin, Esq., C.B., C.V.O., The Colonial Office, London. made/

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asked for. I suggest, however that presentation of the document should be delayed at least until the Committee gets to Geneva; the majority of members are not likely to get down to serious study. While, they are in Palestine; moreover, some one of the members will unquestionably pass his copy of the document to the Jewish Agency; but the speed with which this is denemand they corrow opportunity for making press capital out of "yet another secret Government document" will be reduced if the document is not made available while the Committee is still in Palestines and surrounded by local as well as foreign press representatives.

Because I encloses the textrofother statements read through one to yesterday; by: Bernstein: and Kaplan; on behalf; of the Agency; a These are now being examined here with a view to consideration of the abextentato which they call for comment by Government as Some of the Kaplan's insinuations and conclusions, particularly in regard here to the history of the examination of the Hays-Savage schemes to cannot, Inthink, be allowed to pass unchallenged of I have found it. difficult to get copies of these statements and am able only to send single copies immediately. Three copies of the official record prepared by the U.N. S. C. O.P. verbatim reporters will be sent as soon as received from the Committee. The sac at mother of bendion; ed yllexcered block mejetná tujt bur molfi bre mertebnek ví on of or 4 inclase enclosed area (a) as preliminary memorandum and or submitted to the Committee by the Agency and (b) a copy of a care Press Release Nows 25 at no o wit no in oal or at trok old to seal out dente is international frusteachip; I had thought at siret 5. Significant stand that Shertokais not intending to give evidence at present, but is hoping to be heard by the comittee is at the very end of their hearings and, if possible, after any evidence given orally by Government, so that he may be able to or dislometic sense. I doubt if he will be very nuch help to same or when it comes to enquire the lines of the recept. (Inchashing, I understand it was no who draffroverstours actions actioners resolution; restinged fill bet stoked og of fluth 'achereth beveile fed of th . (Ils to notimiosor of SCD) a De Ced MACGILLIVRAY - nogu betov an bus integran, on the ofice hand, is clearly a rise's cluss countities man, very able and taening and, above all the others, espable of composin

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J.M. Martin, Maq., O.B., C.V.C., The Colonial Office, London. Reference: FO 371 /61782

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Secured encloses the textrofother statements read through ont to yesterday by Bernstein and Kaplangon behalf of the Agency as These are now being examined hereawith a view to consideration of the abextentato which they call for comment by Government and Some of the Kaplands insinuations and conclusions, particularly in regardo he ov to the history of the examination of the Hays-Savage schemes; cannot, I think, be allowed to pass unchallenged I have found it. difficult to get copies of these statements and am able only to send single copies immediately. Three copies of the official record prepared by the U.N.S.C.O.P. verbatim reporters will be sent as soon as received from the Committee. Have no no modernion Destiloni ed vilugosasa oluov mehotaŭ isti bur moli ban moattinse vi . on of 4 fro Also enclosed are (a) as preliminary memorandum of of submitted to the Committee by the Agency and (b) a copy of at the Press Release Now 25 at no and drive only realized with to annie out hands of an international brustseship; I had thought at direct 115. 15 I understand that Shertokais not intending to give evidence at present, but is hoping to be heard by the comittee is at the very end of their hearings and life possible safter any prev evidence: given for ally: by: Government, a solthat he may be able to god disloments of the contract of fith of the very nucl hears it is a larger of the mole th which it comes to enguing the lines of the report. (Incincating, taukbulozen ameneinea di**Yoursleven**; farb odw od eew it baristebau I if he had allowed Granados' draw to an Destars that fewalls Committees . (Its to notificeer of SGD) a De Cad MACGILLIVRAY - more befor an bus laterale ou the ofiner band, is oleraly a rise. I that solute ocasit to very able and tearing and, above all the others, aspable of composit .nointgo to econeastitib

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> J.M. Martin, Esq., C.L., C.V.O., The Colonial Office, London.

L. L. E. sug

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JUL 117 TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S. COLONIES.

Sent loth July, 1947. 17.15 hrs.

No.1499 Confidential.

Pollowing for MacGillivray from Martin. Begins.

Your letter of lat July.

Foreign Office Conference Department representative at Geneva has been instructed to reserve bedroom and sitting room (the latter equipped as an Office) for you from 28th July ormards.

regarding transmission of messages and supply of stationery and equipment, but I regret we have not been able to arrange for a stenographer. Could you bring one with you from Palestine? Ands. Copy sent to:Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

617 CO

75872/154/47

6245 46 31

Code

TO PALESTINE (Ger. Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S. COLONIES.

Sent 11th July, 1947. 10.45 hrs.

INDEXED

No. 1504

My telegram No.2499.

Following for MacGillivrey from Martin.

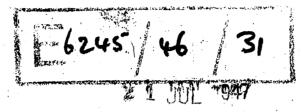
Begins.

Foreign Office atenographer Mrs. Ellis leaves for Geneva 28th July to be at your disposal. Ends.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

75872/154/47 Code



ENTE

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 16th July, 1947. 19.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE No. 1558 Confidential.

Your telegram No. 1330.

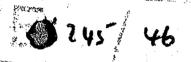
Following for MacGillivray from Martin. Begins.

Agree that you should travel to Geneva 24th July. Booking of accommodation and arrival of stenographer have been advanced accordingly. If you will telegraph E.T.A. direct to United Kingdom Delegation Geneva for Conference Department Geneva you will be met. In case of difficulty please contact Conference Department at Hotel Beau Rivage. Ends.

Copy sent to: -

Foreign Office

Mr. H. Beeley.





75872/134/47

Code

MDEXED

TO PALESTINE (Gon. Sir A: Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S. COLONIES.

Sent 18th July, 1947, 17.30 hrs.

THETTANK

No. 1579 Confidential.

Your telegram No. 1355.

Following for MacGillivray from Martin.

Begins.

Agree that you should arrive Geneva as arranged 24th July and after settling in come on to United Kingdom. Please let me know from Geneva when you hope to arrive here and what arrangements you would wish us to make regarding accommodation. Agree no necessity for you to accompany Committee to Amman or Beirut. Ends.

down sent to:-

Foreign Office

- Mr. H. Beoley.

Reference: FO 371 /61782

DIWARD TELEGRAM

Code

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cumningham) INDEXED

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 17th July, 1947. 07.00 hrs. 6245 46 31

IMMEDIATE No. 1355 Confidential

Your telegram No. 1558.

Following for Martin from Macgillivray. Begins.

You will now know that the High Commissioner proposes that I should fly to London for a few days before proceeding to Genera. I have now obtained air passage to Geneva on 24th July and it would be difficult for me to complete work here before that date. Owing to the difficulty in obtaining other quick air passage at short notice, I would propose to proceed to Geneva as arranged and continue the journey to London from there. This in any case would probably be the quickest route. I could continue the journey to London from Geneva on 25th July, but I suggest that there might be advantage if I were not to do so until two or three days later. This would enable me to "settle in" at Gemeva and to obtain by them a better appreciation of the needs of the Committee in respect of the matters the High Commissioner desires me to discuss with you. If you agree to this suggestion (to which the High Commissioner has no objection) advanced date for booking of accommodation and arrival of stemographer can stand.

I assume that it is not desired that I should suggest to the Committee that, as His Majesty's Government's Liaison Officer, I should accompany them to Lebenon and It does not seem to me appropriate or Transjordan. necessary that I should visit these States with the Committee. Arrangements will no doubt be made by the Foreign Office for H.M.G. & Representatives Beirus and Ammen to report fully on the proceedings there.

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Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: F 371 61782

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BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

E 62919th July 1947

Ref: 15/223/47 CONFIDENTIAL

16 JUL 1947

Dem Levile,

I received a telephone call from Congresswoman Frances Payne Bolton about the three Jews under sentence of death for their attack on Acre Prison. Mrs. Bolton emphasised that she had no sympathy with terrorism. Her view was, however, that if the British Government could show some degree of clemency over this particular case it would save much future spilling of blood in Palestine and would redound to the credit of the British. She also contended that the carrying out of the sentences would play into the hands of the extremists, who would proclaim it as an example of the impossibility of dealing with the British. She concluded an impassioned, but well-reasoned, telephonic plea on the theme that "Britain must display her usual greatness by remitting the death penalty" and by saying that the execution of these three Jews would create a very bad atmosphere for the United Nations Special Committee now at work in Palestine.

As you no doubt know yourself, Mrs. Bolton is a respected member of Congress who is not usually prone to violent views. As far as we know she has no special connexion with any Zionist organizations, although she told me that she had made acquaintance with a group of Young Zionists whose sincerity and good sense had made a deep impression on her.

/Indeed

N.M. Butler, Esq., K.C.M.G., C.V.O., Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

Indeed she is, if anything, pro-Arab, and most warmly pro-British.

I send you this account of what Mrs. Bolton said because, with two exceptions, it is the first approach that has been made to us by Americans concerning the three Acre terrorists. The two exceptions, about both of which we have written to the Eastern Department, are the notoriously Zionist Congressman Emanuel Celler, and the brother and sister of one of the accused. It is remarkable that, in spite of the attention given to the sentences, as a result of the intervention of UNSCOP, our post box should have remained so void of any letters of protest on this subject. The absence of correspondence in the present case is in marked contrast to the large amount we received over Dov Gruner. Please do not therefore think that in passing on to you Mrs. Bolton's remarks I am in any way making out that there is a large and active group of people in this country who are seriously concerned over the fate of the three terrorists. Such a conclusion would not be borne out by the evidence in our possession.

John Balfour

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16. JUL 1947

[EN CLAIR]

WORLD ORGANISATION

DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No: 1869

D. 7.33. p.m. 15th July 1947

15th July 1947

R. 5.35.a.m.16th July 1947

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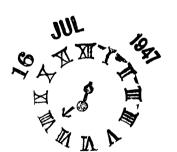
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IMPORTANT

Giant.

Palestine Secretariat have circulated (in document A/317) telegram dated July 7th from Saudi Arabian Minister in Washington submitting following item for agenda of next regular session of General Assembly:

"The termination of the Mandate over Palestine and the recognition of its independence as on State".



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ONE DELEGATION IN UNITED NATIONS PALESTINE COMMITTEE CONSIDERING FEDERALISATION PLAN: U.N. SUPERVISION. 16 1947

Jerusalem, July 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

The nature of political thinking among members of the United Nations Palestine Committee may be gauged by the details of a plan of federalisation which is being considered by one of the most active delegations in the Committee, it was

The plan envisages the immediate division of Palestine into seven Jewish and seven Arab cantonments, with a 10-year Federal Government whose powers would be vested in a council composed of one representative from each contonment and an equal number of non-Palestinian councillors appointed by the United Nations. Head of the council would be a governor selected by the United Nations.

After calling for the immediate evacuation of the British, the plan gives the Jews complete authority over immigration, health, education, land development and other functions in the Jewish cantonments, while trade, security and public works, including the rights of water-pipe lines, are to be under the Federal Government,

At the end of the 10-year period, a plebiscite is to be held in each cantonment to determine whether it wishes to continue under the plan or to unite more closely with the other cantonments, or whether it favours partition into separate Arab and Jewish States.

According to the plan, the Jewish cantonments would be divided as follows:— The region north of Safad, the Tiberias area, the south-western part of the Beisan area, the coastal region from Haifa to Jaffa with the exception of the south Jaffa district, the area south of Hebron, the area directly south of Beisan and north of the Dead Sea, and the entire Negev south of the line running horizontally through a point 12 kilometres north of Beersheba. The Arab cantonments would include:— The Safad district, the Beisan district, the Nablus district, the Ramallah district, the Jaffa district, the Gaza district, and the Hebron area.

Plan Held Superior To Partition.

The delegation considering this plan contends that its advantages over partition are as follows:— First, it keeps the economy of the country intact; secondly, it provides an opportunity for a period of observation to see if the Jews and Arabs can get along together under supervision; thirdly, the divisions make civil war remote, whereas if Palestine were divided into two solid States, any friction would lead to war; fourthly, security would be vested in the hands of police chosen from the less extreme groups of the population and responsible to the United Nations; and fifthly, partition is strongly opposed not only by Arabs, but also by certain sections of the population, including the dissident groups and the Communists.

Among the objections being raised to this plan are that it is impossible to draw seven sizeable cantonments on a map in which there is a Jewish majority, except in the Tel Aviv area, because the Jews have necessarily bought land in Arab territory and therefore any sizeable province is bound to have an Arab majority. In addition, there are many economic functions which depend upon the Federal Government, but which are unfeasible under federalisation: for instance, the manner in which taxation would be raised and

Another drawback is that since this solution does not provide a single Jewish State, there would be a Jewish refusal to accept it. Also, the administration of the plan is complicated, and the working of a 28-member council would be obviously unwieldy.

The fact remains, according to observers, that the Com-

mittee is still trying to find the beginning of a path leading through the maze of solutions. Members are currently vacillating between solutions hinging on partition and federalisation, with one delegation in favour of binationalism, and one definitely for partition. At least four delegations are hampered by a reluctance to arrive at any solution which may be considered anti-British.

RECEIVED IN G.B.

14/7/1947
FIGURE TO DEPT.

PALESTINE COMMUNISTS! WEMORANDUM TO U.N. ENQUIRY COMMITTEE:
BITTER ATTACK ON MANDATORY GOVERNMENT.

Jerusalem, July 13th. (Jewish Telegraphic Agency).

A severe attack on the Mandatory Government, and its incessant efforts to divide and rule both parts of Palestine's

population, is contained in a memorandum submitted yesterday by the Central Committee of the Palestine Communist Party to the

Reviewing thirty years of British rule in the country, the memorandum states they have been years of oppression, years of political, economic and military domination for Jews and Arabs alike, years of misery, unemployment and outrage by the Army and police forces, a planned and conscious effort by Imperialism for the preservation of economic, social and cultural backwardness of the country.

The memorandum further reviews all plans for establishing peace in the country, after animosity had been actively encouraged. The plans mark additional steps in the general plan to perpetuate Imperialistic rule in the country, the statement charges.

The situation in Palestine, the memorandum goes on, resulting from the colonial regime and policy of the British Government, is characterised by successive phases of bloodshed and disturbances of the peace. "The British police and military have not been instrumental in preserving the peace, but, on the contrary, they have produced a state of tension between Arabs and Jews and a constant danger of bloody disturbances," the memorandum states. "The police and military have been increased to such an extent that there is now one soldier or policeman to every thirteen civilians, yet with the increase of 'security measures,' insecurity has increased."

Characteristic of the atmosphere under which inhabitants live is that caused by the "racially biased non-fraternisation order" issued by the ex-G.O.C., General Barker, it says. But "provocative acts of Jewish terrorists are no justification whatever for terror perpetrated against peaceful citizens," the memorandum declares.

Britain's Huge Military Base In Palestine,

It further asserts that the situation in Palestine is a threat not only to peace in the Middle East, but to the entire world. "The huge military base which the British Government is building up in Palestine greatly surpasses any needs even of a colonial army of oppression directed against the peoples of Palestine and the colonial and semi-colonial countries of the Middle East," it says. "British manoeuvres held last year in the desert adjoining Palestine, made as a fight against an imaginary Red Army which invaded the Middle East, give a clear indication against whom British reactionary circles intend to direct these military preparations in Palestine."

The 36-page memorandum concludes with the Communist proposals to solve the Palestine problem: immediate abolition of the British Mandate and the withdrawal of the British Army. "Both Jews and Arabs alike demand the implementation of these two necessities, as this will create the preliminary conditions essential for free negotiations between the two peoples on the question of a political regime," it says.

The Communists oppose partition on the grounds that Palestine should be constituted as an independent, united State of both peoples, free from foreign rule and intervention. Furthermore, they say, the peoples of Palestine should have full equality of wights; thirdly, there should be complete political freedom and equality of rights for every inhabitant, irrespective of race, nationality, sex or religion; fourthly, conditions should be created rendering impossible the domination of one people by another; and fifthly, foreign capital concessions should be terminated, their nationalisation to serve as the basis for the country's economic development.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

E 6338

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cundinghell)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 12th July, 1947.

R. 12th

18.39 hrs.

No. 1314

Addressed to S. of S.

to Washington, No. 155. Repeated.

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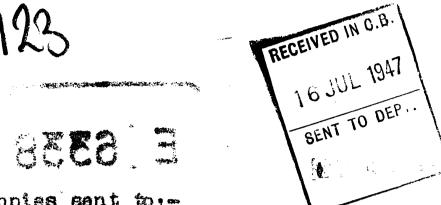
Begins.

Terrorist incidents.

At approximately 0045 hours on 12th July two military N.C.O.'s of the Field Security were abducted in Nathanya by a party of armed Jews who arrived in a taxi. The two N.C.O.'s word in the company of a Jewish clerk. All three were ordered to enter the vehicle. Whilet doing so one of the W.C.O.'s was asked on the head with a firearm. The Jewish clerk was blindfolded. Car was driven round for some twenty minutes and then the clerk was put out of the vehicle and placed under guard. Later a car drove up and the Jewish clerk was interrogated. On being estisfied that be was a Jew his interrogators placed him in the car and he was driven for another twenty minutes. He was then left bound and still blindfolded in an orange grove. At dawn he managed to escape with the assistance of a local resident and reported to scennity Authorities. Orange grove is short distance north of Mathanya. Clerk states one of the M.C.O.'s may have been chloreformed. Captors reported to have said the lives of the condemned Jewish prisoners were more valuable than those of Briblah Sergeants.

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Copies cent to;-Foreign Office_ - Private Secretary. - Mr. C.W. Bester. - Dominions Intelligence Dept. "(Research Dept)- Air Commodore K.C. Buss. "(Middle East Secretariat) - Mr. D.A. Greenhill. - Major Gen.A.J.C. Pollook. M.I.5. Cabinet Offices - Mr. T.A.Robertson. - General Sir L. Hollis. - Group Capt. Stapleton. - Mr. T.A.G. Charlton. Admiralty -- Chief of Naval Staff. Wer Office - C.I.G.S. - Lt.Col. W. Gore. (M. I. J. - Major Telfer Smollett. (M.I.Ja) - Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson. (M.O.4.) - Chief of Air Staff. Air Ministry - Private Secretary. Ministry of Defence - Sir Henry Wilson Smith. Private Secretary, No. 10 Downing Street. J.A.R. Pimlost, Req., Private Secretary to the Lord President of the Council.

Reference: FO 371 /61782

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Cypher (O.T.P.)

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 16th July, 1947. 21.15 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 1557 TOP SECRET.

One of the British Sergeants kidnapped on 12th July is a constituent of Mr. Edelman, M.P. for Coventry West. I have been approached by Mr. Edelman and Mr. Crossman, the two Members of Parliament for Coventry, with a request for permission to have a message from them broadcast on the Palestine radio to the Jewish people calling upon them to assist in obtaining the release of the kidnapped soldiers I have made it clear that, while I myself would have no objection to such a broadcast being made, it is a matter which I would leave entirely to your discretion. Grateful, therefore, if you would consider whether text of message which Tollows may be broadcast from Jerusalem. Message begins:-

The following message is broadcast at the request of Mr. Richard Crossman and Mr. Maurice Edelman, Members of Parliament for Coventry East and Coventry West respectively:

> "The kidnapping of the 2 British Sergeants at Nathaniya is a crime which affronts the conscience of every decent person whether Gentile or Jew. If these innocent men have been taken as hostages the action adds to the responsibility of those involved since the taking of guiltless hostages is a barbarous action contrary to civilised law and to human ethics. The soldiers involved

> > /are

RECEIVED IN C.B. 18 JUL 1947 SENT TO DEPI.



are the sons of ordinary working people, one of them from Coventry the city we represent. We call on every Jew to help in obtaining their release and prevent a crime from reaching a fruition which will not only receive the condemnation of mankind but will have disastrous results for the cause which the kidnappers mistakenly think they serve". Ends.

> (Signed) Richard Crossman, Member of Parliament for Coventry East.

> > Maurice Edelman

Member of Parliament for Coventry West.

2. If you decide that message may be broadcast, please inform me date and time of transmission as Mr. Edelman would wish to release message to Coventry Press at same hour.

Distributed to:-

Secretary of State Sir T. Lloyd Mr. I. Thomas Mr. Martin Sir C. Jeffries Mr. Blackburne Mr. Gutch Mr. Trafford Smith Mr. Mathieson Mr. Higham Mr. Bennett Mr. Eastwood Mr. Bigg Miss Boyd Foreign Office

Mr. Beeley.

INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

PROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO 8. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 17th July, 1947. R. 17th ""

14.30 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 1353

Your telegram No. 1557.

Message will be broadcast by P.B.S. in Hebrew at 20.15 hours, in Arabic at 21.00 hours and in English at 21.30 hours today 17th July. Times in each case local time.

I trust that this will be regarded as a special case and not (repeat not) as constituting a precedent.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. Bealeys

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

6338/46/21

75156/151A/6/47

En Clair

TO PALESTIME (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 31st July, 1947, 18.30 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 1708

Addressed to High Commission, Palestine, Repeated to Washington and U.K. Delegation, New York.

Following is text of Question and Answer in Parliament Thursday 31st July.

Begins.

Mr. Edelman to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies: If he has any further information concerning the two British Sergeants in Palestine.

Mr. Creech Jones, It is with deep regret that I confirm the reports which have been current during the past twenty-four hours that the two British Sergeants, Paice and Martin, abducted at Nathanya on the 12th July, have been murdered by Jewish terrorists.

High Commissioner for Palestine: "Most deeply regret to inform you that the two bodies were found at 9 o'clock this morning in an eucalyptus grove at Umm Uleiqa, near Beit Lid. They were hanging from two trees. Notices were pinned to the bodies saying that the men had been hanged by the "National Military Organisation" as British spies. The first body was cut down by an Army Captain, and as he bent over it a small bomb exploded, injuring him in the face. The surrounding area was found to have been mined.

In the long history of violence in Palestins there has scarcely been a more dastardly act than the cold-blooded and calculated murder of these innocent young men after holding them as hostages for more than a fortnight. I can only express what I know to be the deep feelings of horror and revolsion—shared by all of us here at this barbarous crime. I am sure that this House would also wish me to convey their most sincere sympathy with the families and friends of the murdered men in the anguish they have endured during the days of waiting and now in their irreparable loss.

His Majesty's Government also pay tribute to the Services in Palestine for their courage and good bearing in conditions of risk and arduous responsibility. Such an outrage against men discharging a service in fulfilment of international obligations is not only abhorrent in the eyes of all civilised persons everywhere, but must surely mean the final condemnation of the terrorists in the eyes of their own people. We can only hope that this latest act will stir the Jewish community in Palestine to root out this evil from their midst.

Mr. Edelman: In view of those terrible facts, will the Minister take unrelenting steps to see to it that both the authors and the inspirers of them are brought to justice? Will he also see that the dependents of the innocent victims are properly cared for?

Mr. Creech Jones: The High Commissioner, the police and the military authorities will do and are doing everything in their power to secure that end. I will, of course, consult my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for War in regard to the second part of the Question.

Mr. Oliver Stanley: Might I first of all associate all my Rt. Hon and Hon. Friends with the expression of sympathy that the Rt. Hon. Gentleman has expressed towards the families of the victims of this dastardly outrage. The father of one of the boys, as in the case of the Hon. Member who asked the question, is in my constituency. May I also associate all Members on this side of the House with the expressions of gratitude which the Rt. Hon. Gentleman has expressed to all our people in Palestine who are having to go through these extremely difficult and dangerous times.

Then, Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Rt. Hon. Gentleman whether he realises that we, on this side of the House have refrained from asking for any debate on this matter as long as any hope existed, but now that the final tragic news is confirmed, does the Rt. Hon. Gentleman agree that it would be impossible for this House to adjourn for some months without a discussion in which it will be possible for the Rt. Hon. Gentleman to state fully what steps the Government intend to take in view of this challenge to all authority?

Mr. Creech Jones: I think that the question put to me in regard to the possibility of some discussion on this matter must be addressed to the Leader of the House.

Squadron Leader Fleming: Could the Rt. Hon. Gentleman tell us whether there has been any expression of horror at this outrage by the Jewish Agency, on behalf of the Jewish people?

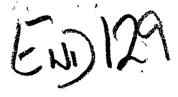
Mr. Creech Jones: I can only say that so far I have not seen any official statement from the Agency.

Mr. Sydney Silverman: Will my Rt. Hon. Friend bear in mind that I, speaking for nobody but myself and as one who has taken his share in trying to awaken public sympathy for what I regard as a just cause, feel that I ought to express my own sense of deep shame and humiliation that this cause should have been so stained with innocent blood.

Mr. Gallacher: While I join with the others in expressions of feeling about this terrible event and sympathy with the families of the victims, I would like to ask the Minister if he will see to it that special consideration is given to the families of these sergeants? If a man is killed while doing his duty, his mother is not entitled to any consideration unless she passes a means test. I would ask that there shall be no means test, so far as these men are concerned, but that special consideration be given to their families?

Mr. Janner: May I, as one who also frequently advocates the justice of the cause in Palestine express my very deep horror, and regret, and sympathy with the relatives? May I say that there is no question at all that the whole Jewish community in this country -Agency, Zionist Federation regard this dastardly deed with horror.

/Vice Admirel Taylor:



Vice Admiral Taylor: May I ask the Minister whether martial law has been imposed?

Mr. Creech Jones: During the periods of the search certain areas were cordoned off and very strong security measures were taken. I think that position applies in certain areas at the present time.

Vice Admiral Taylor: Is there any reason why martial law should not be instituted at once?

Mr. Creech Jones: I have just answered that since these men have been kidnapped strong security measures have been taken in certain areas. I believe that there are still areas where the special defence regulations operate. Ends.

(Copies sent to Foreign Office to repeat to Washington and New York).

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley